RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

1919—1948

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PREFACE

At the twelfth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission held on 10 July 1948, it was proposed that all the resolutions so far passed by the Commission should be put together and published in a handy form at the time of the Jubilee Session of the Commission so that the members might readily ascertain what had already been done, and, in the light of that information, decide on the future course of action. The present booklet is published in pursuance of that demand and contains the resolutions not only of the Indian Historical Records Commission but also of its two adjuncts—the Research and Publication Committee and the Local Records Sub-Committee. The resolutions have, as far as possible, been arranged subject-wise. It is hoped that the booklet will serve the purpose its sponsors had in view.

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Membership of the Indian Historical Records Commission—Venue of the Sessions—Papers Read at the Meetings

Resolution II, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission suggests that as a beginning the three States of Baroda, Gwalior and Indore might be invited to appoint either a single representative or each a separate representative in successive years with a view to making their historical records available to research.

Action taken.—Invitations sent and representatives from Baroda and Indore attended the 2nd meeting and two representatives from Baroda attended the 3rd meeting.

Resolution III (ii), 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Commission recommends to the Government of India the desirability of inviting the States of Hyderabad and Jaipur to send one representative each to the next and succeeding meetings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Action taken.—The resolution was brought to the notice of the Resident at Hyderabad by the Government of India for ascertaining the view of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government on the subject.

Resolution IV, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Commission should have corresponding members at various centres but such members should not have any voice in the affairs of the Commission.

Resolution V, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the local co-opted members of the sixth session, namely :— Dr. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar, M.A., Ph.D., M.R.A.S., F.R.H.S., Dr. John Mathai, B.L., B.Litt., D.Sc., M.L.C., The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai, C.I.E., I.S.O., Mr. M. Ratnaswami, M.L.C., Mr. C. W. E. Cotton, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. C. Hayavadana Rao, be requested to become corresponding members for the Madras Presidency. The selection of corresponding members for the other provinces of India be left to the Chairman and the Secretary who are to make recommendations to the Government of India after informally consulting members of the Commission and others interested in historical research.

Action taken.—The Government of India approved the idea of having corresponding members at various centres. The members proposed for Madras as well as for other centres were accepted by the Government of India.

Resolution II, 8th Session, 1925, Lahore.

That the local co-opted members of the 8th session, namely :— Mr. A. C. Woolner, M.A., Mr. J. R. Firth, M.A., Lala Sitaram Kohli, M.A., and Rai Bahadur Pandit Sheo Narain be recommended to the Government of India for appointment as corresponding members of the Commission for the Punjab centre.

Resolution III, 8th Session, 1925, Lahore.

That Mr. C. S. Srinivasachari, M.A., Professor of History, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, be recommended for appointment as corresponding member for the Madras centre in place of Dewan Bahadur Swamikannu Pillai, deceased.

Resolution IX, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That Rev. H. Heras, S.J., M.A., Professor of History, St. Xavier's College, Bombay, be recommended for appointment as a corresponding member for the Bombay centre.

Resolution XIV, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

That Mr. Panduranga Pissurlencar, Member, Lisbon Academy of Sciences, Nova Goa, Portuguese India, and Mr. H. G. Frinks, Journalist, Poona, be recommended to the Government of India for appointment as corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission for the Goa and Poona centres respectively.

Resolution XVI, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends that Mons. A. Balasubramaniam Pillai, a member of the Historical Society of French India, and who is the representative of the French Government in India at this session of the Commission, be appointed a corresponding member for Pondichery in place of Mons. A. Singaravelou Pillai, deceased.

Resolution II, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That the Commission recommends that the term of office of the corresponding members be fixed at three years as is the case with the ordinary members of the Commission.

Action taken.—Approved in each case.

Resolution XVI, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That an invitation be sent to Captain Bullock to become a corresponding member of the Indian Historical Records Commission, so that when he becomes a member liaison will be established between the Commission and the students interested in Army historical research.

Action taken.—Approved. Lieutenant Colonel Bullock was appointed a corresponding member of the Commission in 1931 and reappointed in 1934.

Resolution III, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission recommends that the claims of Burma to permanent representation on the Historical Records Commission be sympathetically considered when the next vacancy occurs.

Resolution III, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That the Commission recommends that either (i) the ordinary membership be increased so as to permit of a member for Burma being included, or (ii) the next vacancy should go to Burma.

Action taken.—The Government deferred appointment for the time being in view of the uncertainty of the future relationship between Burma and India.

Resolution XI, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

In view of the difficulties and disadvantages under which the Commission laboured at Bombay, the Commission was of opinion that arrangements for the holding of future meetings should be left in the hands of the permanent Secretary.

Action taken.—Approved by the Government of India.

Resolution VII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

(i) That the programme of the Commission be so modified in future as to make visits to and exploration of the local records the main work of the session, one entire day being set apart for this purpose.

Action taken.—The Government of India authorised the Secretary of the Commission to decide in consultation with the local authorities concerned whether an additional day should be devoted entirely to visits to and exploration of the local records.

Resolution VIII, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That in future papers to be read before the Commission should deal with records only or with the interpretation of historical records

and that they should not be of a general character and that the Secretary should get a summary of the papers intended to be read before the Commission at least a month in advance and to accept only such as *are relevant in character.* (A time-limit of 15 minutes was fixed for each paper.)

Resolution VII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

(ii) That the time devoted to the reading of papers at the public meeting should be reduced by a stricter discrimination among the papers submitted for acceptance, it being borne in mind that the primary object of the Commission is the work of archivism.

Action taken.—The proposals were accepted. It is now insisted that the sources should be original and unpublished.

Resolution IV, 16th Session, 1939, Calcutta.

The Commission recommends that papers to be read at its public meeting be printed in advance.

Action taken.—Approved by the Government of India. A brochure of papers has since been printed every year in advance.

Resolution V, 16th Session, 1939, Calcutta.

It was further resolved that a Selection Committee with Sir Jadunath Sarkar and the Secretary as members be appointed for the scrutiny of the papers received.

Action taken.—As the scrutiny of papers was a function of the Local Records Sub-Committee consisting of local members only, the Government of India were unable to accept the recommendation.

Grant of Subsidy to Indian Historical Records Commission, Individual Scholars and Institutions

Resolution I, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

That it be very strongly recommended to the Government of India that the budget grant of the Indian Historical Records Commission be increased by Rs. 2,000 for meeting the expenses of the historical exhibition and the contingent charges of the Commission.

Resolution I, 8th Session, 1925, Lahore.

That the Commission re-affirms its previous recommendation to the Government of India that an additional grant of Rs. 2,000 in the Commission's budget allotment be made in order to meet the expenses of the historical exhibition and the contingent charges of the Commission.

Action taken.—The budget grant of the Commission was Rs. 4,000. An additional grant of Rs. 2,000 was sanctioned in 1925.

Resolution IV, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission strongly recommends to the Government of India that the grant of Rs. 3,000 to meet the expenses of the historical exhibition and the contingent charges of the Commission be restored in the future.

Action taken.—In 1931 the entire grant for the Indian Historical Records Commission was surrendered due to financial stringency. Subsequently part of the grant was restored. The Government of India, however, expressed their inability to restore the grant of Rs. 3,000 for meeting the expenses of the exhibition on financial grounds.

Resolution IV, 3rd Session 1921, Bombay.

It was resolved that the Government of India should be asked to grant a subsidy of Rs. 600 to the Itihasa Mandal of Poona to examine

the Marathi records in Goa territory and to obtain copies of important documents, and also to compile a note on the extent and value of the Persian records. The note should be submitted to the Historical Records Commission for their information.

Action taken.—The Government of India asked for information regarding the Itihasa Mandal from the Government of Bombay.

Resolution X, 3rd Session 1921, Bombay.

The Commission is of opinion that it should be given powers within the limits of the budget grant to sanction expenditure for specific purposes, such as (*a*) grant of honorarium to editors, (*b*) travelling allowances to investigators of records, (*c*) subsidies to learned societies in investigating records on behalf of the Commission.

Action taken.—The Government of India declined to accept the proposal but were prepared, as before, to consider each case on its merits.

Resolution X, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

It was decided to recommend to the Government of India the grant to Father Hosten of his travelling expenses on the understanding that he submitted a paper on the result of his examination of the Madras and Mylapore archives to the Indian Historical Records Commission at their next meeting.

Resolution IV, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

Rev. H. Hosten's representation on the subject of his travelling allowance for his journey to Mylapore, Madras, etc., was considered by the Commission and it was decided that instead of second class he should be granted first class travelling allowance and that as his journey took more than six weeks, the restriction that his journey should be limited to that period should be relaxed.

Resolution V, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India be asked, in view of the extreme importance of the information which is likely to be discovered by Rev. H. Hosten, to sanction an amount for his travelling expenses not exceeding the sum paid last year, to enable him to continue his inquiries at Mylapore.

Action taken.—The Government of India granted Rs. 819-2-0 towards the travelling allowance of Rev. H. Hosten who in due course submitted a report of his visit to Mylapore, Pondichery, etc., in connection with preparation of a history of the Jesuit Missions in Bengal. The Government of India declined to make any further grant for continuation of his research.

Resolution III, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

The Commission refuses to grant a subsidy to Maulavi Zafar Hasan for publishing the "Khulasat-ut-Tawrikh" as it does come within the scope of the Commission, the object of which is to assist in the publication of original records or studies based on them. It is further resolved that no applications for grants towards any publications should ordinarily be entertained unless the Commission has previously been consulted in the matter.

Action taken.—The Government of India agreed with the Commission.

Resolution IV, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

That a Committee be appointed with the Honourable Minister for Education as Chairman, Secretary of the Commission as Secretary and the five experts nominated by the Government of India as members to advise the Director of Archives about the disbursements of funds to learned societies for the preservation of purchased documents.

Action taken.—The Government of India's decision is awaited.

Resolution V, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends to the Government that in view of the high cost of living prevailing at Delhi, the proposed stipends for trainees in the National Archives of India should be adequately enhanced.

Action taken.—There are two stipends, each of the value of Rs. 100 per month. The Government of India have noted the resolution.

Resolution VI, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends that the editors of the records in oriental languages should be treated on the same basis as the editors of English records and that they should be entitled to the proposed honorarium.

Action taken.—The Government of India have noted the resolution.

Resolution XII, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

Resolved that the Government of India be requested to make a special grant for filling up the gaps of the Parliamentary Paper Series now owned by the National Archives of India, as well as for purchase of future volumes.

Action taken.—The Government of India have approved the proposal in principle and proposals are under submission to Government for acquisition of the Parliamentary Papers.

Resolution XV, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends that the provincial Governments in the Dominion of India be given adequate grants to historical research institutions in their provinces expressly for the preservation of the collection of manuscripts and historical documents in their possession.

Action taken.—Reply awaited from the Government of India.

Resolution VII, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

(iii) It is also desirable that the publication of selected historical documents from the collection should be undertaken as funds permit. As these records often relate to the affairs of India in general and are not confined to what happened in the territories now included in the Bombay Presidency, they are of more than provincial interest. The Commission would, therefore, recommend that the Government of India be pleased to make a grant, in aid of their publication, to the Government of Bombay, and would suggest that a sum of Rs. 3,000 be provided for this purpose in the Imperial Budget for the next year, which in their opinion would be sufficient for the purpose.

Action taken.—Owing to financial stringency the Government of India were unable to make any such grant.

Regional Servey Committee

Resolution V, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

The Commission recommends that the Government of India request the provincial Governments and the Indian States.

(*a*) to set up local committees in consultation with the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Commission in their areas to conduct regional surveys with a view to bringing to light records in private custody and providing for their preservation and publication ;

(*b*) to include the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission in their respective areas ;

(*c*) to accord all facilities to the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Commission for carrying on the regional surveys pending the appointment of the committees recommended.

Action taken.—*Ad hoc* Regional Survey Committees were formed in all the provinces (except the Punjab which had formed a Regional Committee of its own on the lines proposed) and their expenses are borne by the Central Government. Sirmur, Bharatpur, Pudukkottai, Baroda, Bamra, Khairpur, Kalahandi, Kapurthala, Travancore, Patna, Kolhapur, Banswara, Alwar, Suket, Patiala, Mysore and Jodhpur States formed Regional Survey Committees for their respective States. Of the remaining States from whom replies have been received some, *e.g.*, Rajpipla, Gwalior, Bikaner, Dungarpur, etc., reported that they had been collecting historical documents through their own organisations and the rest did not propose to take any action as they did not possess documents of historical importance.

Establishment of Records Offices in India

Resolution IV, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

Resolved that the Commission brings to the notice of the Indian States the desirability of organising Records Offices for the preservation of the valuable historical documents in their custody and for collecting originals or copies of such documents of historical value as may be found in the possession of private families within their jurisdiction. They may also be informed that such expert help as they may require for the organisation of their muniment rooms will be available from the Secretary of the Commission.

Resolution IX, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission reiterates its request to the provincial Governments and Indian States that Central Records Offices should be established at an early date by such provinces and States as are not already provided with one.

Resolution XIX, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends to the Government of Assam that they should establish a Records Office and provide necessary facilities for research work there to such *bonâ fide* students as may seek them.

Resolution I, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

The Commission lends its whole-hearted support to the proposals of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal in general and to that relating to the establishment of a Central Records Office at Calcutta in particular and invites attention of the authorities to the resolutions passed by the Commission on the subject in its previous sessions and recommends that a Central Records Office be established by the Government of Bengal as early as possible.

Resolution X, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission recommends to the Government of Bihar and Orissa to establish a provincial Records Office, at which the historical

records surviving in the districts and divisions would be concentrated, and to place this office in charge of a competent Record Keeper, with facilities for study by genuine students subject to the conditions that usually obtain in other Records Offices.

Resolution I, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission desires to draw the attention of the Government of Bombay to the need of the appointment of a whole-time expert officer to take charge of the Central Records Office at Bombay.

Resolution XVII, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Government of Bombay be requested to supply information on the following point:—

(*d*) Whether the Government contemplate the appointment of a whole-time Curator of the Records?

Resolution VI, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission begs again to draw the attention of the Government of Bombay to the necessity of their appointing a qualified whole-time Record Keeper, in view of the great value and quantity of the records held by them.

Resolution, VI, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Government of India be moved to inquire from the Government of Burma regarding the present position about the proposed establishment of the provincial Records Office at Rangoon and to recommend that a Curator may be appointed without further delay.

Resolution XI, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

(*i*) The Commission desires to draw the attention of the Government of Burma to the suggestions made in Mr. Furnivall's paper read before the Commission and recommends that they should be carried out with special reference to the following:—

(*a*) To give effect to Professor Dodwell's recommendations, particularly those relating to the centralisation at Rangoon of all records not required for administrative use.

(*b*) That in giving effect to Prof. Dodwell's recommendation of the appointment of a Record Keeper, special attention be paid to his recommendation that the Curator should deal also with vernacular manuscripts.

(*c*) That the Record Room rules be revised along the lines suggested in Mr. Furnivall's paper with a view to ensuring that due provision be made for considering them in their historical aspect.

(*d*) That steps be taken to collect and publish local and indigenous records.

(*e*) That the University of Rangoon should be invited to co-operate in respect of vernacular records with particular reference to those at present in its charge.

(*f*) That the desirability of placing the Historical Record Room on the new University site deserves examination.

Further, (ii) (*a*) The Commission considers that the feasibility of the historical manuscripts in the Bernard Free Library being placed fully at the disposal of the Historical Record Room should be examined.

(*b*) That an officer of the University should be appointed Curator of the Records in addition to his own duties for which he should be granted adequate extra allowance.

(*c*) That in the *interim* the Commission wishes to draw the attention of the Government of Burma to the very serious state of their old records and recommends that temporary measures to preserve them, pending permanent arrangements, should be made without delay, otherwise the Commission fears that irreparable damage will be done before the records are permanently housed.

Resolution VII, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends to the Government of the Central Provinces that a whole-time officer in charge of their records be appointed and that steps be taken to set up machinery for the collection of facsimiles of all documents of historical value in the possession of private families in the Central Provinces, by means of a photostat or

some other method of permanent reproduction. All such facsimiles may be kept under the care of the officer in charge of the records and made available for the use of research scholars.

Resolution IX, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Government of India be requested to urge upon the Government of Madras the necessity of appointing at an early date

(i) a Keeper with necessary qualifications for research work, in the Madras Record Office on such terms and conditions as the local Government deem fit, and

(ii) that a Persian-knowing assistant be appointed to examine and classify the Carnatic records in the Madras Record Office.

Resolution XV, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends that a Records Office be established in the North-West Frontier Province.

Resolution IX, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

The Commission is of opinion that the creation of a Records Department in the United Provinces will considerably assist historical research in the province.

Resolution IV, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India should be asked to remind the United Provinces Government as regards the desirability of creating a Records Department in their province.

Resolution I, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Secretary should remind the Government of India on the subject of the creation of a Records Office in the United Provinces.

Resolution V, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

The Commission recommends to the Government of the United Provinces the desirability of establishing a Records Office at an early date and that rules should be framed for the access of scholars to it.

Resolution XIV, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission with reference to its previous recommendation strongly urges upon the United Provinces Government the necessity of creating a Central Records Office in the United Provinces at an early date.

Resolution X, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

Resolved that the attention of the United Provinces Government be invited to the previous resolutions adopted by the Indian Historical Records Commission, and the correspondence between the Government of India and the United Provinces Government on the subject of—

(1) maintaining the pre-Mutiny records at one central place to save them from neglect and destruction, and

(2) establishing a Central Records Office, where effective scientific measures for the preservation of old records could be adopted, where documents and manuscripts secured by the Regional Survey Committee could be preserved, and where adequate facilities for *bonâ fide* historical research could be provided ; and the United Provinces Government be requested to reconsider the matter now that the war is over.

Action taken.—Pataudi, Dujana, Loharu, Limbdi, Raigarh, Kalahandi, Kankar, Khairagarh, Nandgaon, Patna, Aundh, Sawantwadi, Bonai, Bijawar, Datia, Daspalla, Keonjhar, Narsingpur, Atgarh, Tigiria, Baluchistan have no records offices of their own.

Hyderabad, Kapurthala, Patiala, Travancore, Rajpipla, Baroda, Mysore, Gwalior, Mewar, Dungarpur, Banswara, Mayurbhanj, Tripura, Khairpur, Coorg, Tehri (Garhwal), Sirmur, Kalsia, Cochin, Bilaspur, Karauli, Wadhwan, Rajgarh, Kharswan, Malerkotla have records offices and most of them provide research facilities to the *bonâ fide* research scholars as and when necessary.

Steps were being taken in Bahawalpur, Bikaner, Surguja, Kashmir, Bamra, Jaipur, Sarangarh, Jodhpur to organise records offices.

Bastar, Baramba, Bundi, Kotah, Bharatpur, Pudukkottai have records offices but they have historical documents in their possession.

No action has been taken by the Governments of Assam, Central Provinces and Berar and Burma (independent State now) in this respect so far.

Undivided Punjab had an organised Historical Records Office in Lahore under a qualified part-time Keeper of the Records. East Punjab Government is taking steps to organise a record office

There is a Government record office in Sind.

Bengal (late) had an organised record office and proposed to create a central record office at Calcutta as a post-war reconstruction measure. The scheme was however given a low priority by the Provincial Development Board.

A handbook of Bihar and Orissa provincial records has been published but Bihar and Orissa did not consider a record room necessary for their respective provinces.

Bombay has two records offices, one at Bombay and the other at Poona. It is only in 1947 that the Bombay Government appointed a whole-time Director of Archives.

Madras has an organized records office under the management of a whole-time Curator.

North-West Frontier Province (now in Pakistan) started a central record office under a qualified Keeper of Records in 1946.

In the United Provinces there are two records rooms, one at Lucknow and the other at Allahabad. During the current year they have taken steps to appoint a Director for their records.

Transfer and Concentration of Records

Resolution VIII, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission recommends that the ancient deeds in the custody of the Solicitor to the Government of India and the volumes of copies of ancient deeds at present in the custody of the Inspector-General of Registration in Bengal be sent for restoration to the Imperial Record Department and be subsequently preserved there.

Action taken.—The deeds and registers were brought into the Imperial Record Department (now the National Archives of India).

Resolution X, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission fully endorses the carefully considered views expressed by the Records Sub-Committee and strongly urges upon the Government of India the necessity of accepting the Sub-Committee's recommendation that the records of the Company period should not be moved to Delhi before they are classified, flattened and cased, and the damaged ones repaired in Calcutta, as in the opinion of the Commission, their premature removal would be attended with the gravest danger to the valuable historical documents in their present hazardous condition. The Commission further expressed the hope that the Government of India would give it an opportunity to examine the repaired documents before their transfer to Delhi.

Resolution V(ii), 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

As regards the transfer of the classified and repaired records from Calcutta to New Delhi by instalments, the Commission is of opinion that effect should be given to this decision three years hence when sufficient progress has been made in flattening and repairing the records and those papers which do not bear dates and numbers or correct indications about their locations and which are occasionally coming to light during the process of classification will also have been examined and arranged. The Commission recommends that the records should

then be sent to New Delhi in batches every year, necessary precautions being taken to prevent damage in transit.

Resolution XVII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Secretary be requested to submit at the next session of the Commission a detailed report on the condition of the records already transferred from Calcutta to New Delhi and how they have stood the journey.

Action taken.—The entire body of records were transferred to New Delhi and their condition was satisfactory.

Resolution XIII, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends to the Government of India that the administrative control of pre-1902 records which were in the custody of late British Residencies should be transferred to the National Archives of India.

Action taken.—Records of the defunct Residencies are being transferred to the National Archives of India.

Resolution XIV, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends that the books, manuscripts, etc., in the possession of the India Office should be brought to India and deposited in the National Archives of India.

Action taken.—Matter is under consideration.

Resolution III, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

That provided certified copies exist for record purposes there would be no objection to original documents of historical interest being placed in the Victoria Memorial Hall where they can be seen by the public.

Action taken.—The Government of India permitted documents of exceptional historical interest to be deposited in central libraries and museums provided certified copies existed for record purposes.

Resolution III, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission considers that it is desirable that old records in the district offices of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa should be concentrated in the provincial records offices, and that attention of other local Governments (excluding Madras and Bombay) might be drawn to the desirability of similar concentration.

The Commission also considers that even where the records have been printed the original papers are of considerable value and that it would be well to preserve them either in provincial records offices or in local libraries or in museums.

Resolution V, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission recommends that such of the provincial Governments and Indian States as may possess Central Records Offices be requested to concentrate in them, after the war, such of their district or division records as may not be required for current administrative purposes and to see that they are properly looked after and made available for research. It also recommends that in the provinces and Indian States which do not possess Central Records Offices these records be transferred to suitable institutions approved by the Governments and that where even this is not possible, the district or division officers be instructed to see that their Record Keepers receive a brief training in archives preservation and to throw open for research such of their records as may be unobjectionable.

Action taken.—Replies received were most from those States which had no records of historical interest. Those which had such records, *e.g.*, Travancore State and the Punjab Government (late), were in favour

of acting upon the resolution. Excepting the Punjab no other local Governments indicated their intentions.

Resolution V, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

Resolved that this Commission requests the Calcutta High Court not to destroy any of the old records in its custody, but to transfer them to some record office in Bengal or to any university in the province.

Action taken.—No records have yet been transferred elsewhere.

Resolution VI, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

It was decided that there was no objection to the Bantam Letter Book (1679-83) being transferred from Bombay (where there were no other records from Java or any part of the East Indies) to the India Office which possesses a collection of records from Bantam of the 17th century, that a letter to the India Office should be written on the subject and that the Bombay Government should be informed.

Action taken.—The Bantam Letter Book, 1679-83 was incorporated in the India Office Series of *Factory Records, Java*, Vol. 7A.

Resolution IX, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India should be approached with a view to the transfer of the old Dutch records from the District Judge's Office at Chinsura to the Records Department of the India Office.

Resolution I, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That it is desirable that all the Dutch records in India should be collected in one record room in order to facilitate their preservation and study. Either the Imperial Record Department or the Madras Record Office would be suitable centre, but this should be decided by the Government of India in consultation with the local Governments

concerned (Bengal, Bombay and Madras) who should be invited to report what Dutch records they have and on their willingness to house all such records. In the meantime the old Dutch records at Chinsura should be taken over by the Imperial Record Office.

Resolution I, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

(i) That the Commission recommends to the Government of India that the Dutch records in the possession of the Governments of Bengal and Bombay as well as those in the Imperial Record Office should be concentrated in the Madras Record Office ; and the Commission begs to thank the Government of Madras for promising to house the records.

(ii) The Commission further recommends that the Government of Madras be requested to resume their policy of publishing important Dutch records.

Action taken.—Madras possessed the largest quantity of Dutch records (1,642 vols.), 30 vols. of Dutch records from Surat were available in the Bombay Record Office ; 130 vols. of Dutch and Danish records formerly in the Judge's Court at Chinsurah and 3,492 Dutch Pattas in the Collectorate at Hooghly in Bengal were, in pursuance of Resolution IX of the 5th Session, transferred to the Imperial Record Department which had already 4 vols. of Dutch records. The consensus of opinion was that all the Dutch records should be concentrated in one place and Madras was selected as the most suitable for this purpose and this was accordingly done. Madras Government regreted its inability to resume the publication of important Dutch records owing to financial stringency.

Resolution XI, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India should be approached with a view to the transfer to the India Office of the Danish Company's records

which it is believed are now stored in the Record Room of the Sub-Divisional Officer of Serampore.

Action taken.—As these records relate solely to local revenue matters the Government of Bengal was of opinion that these records should remain at Serampore.

Resolution VI, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission requests the Government of India, provincial Governments and Indian States to transfer papers of historical interest in their custody, particularly the stray ones which are not of much local interest to them as they are to some other province or State, to the archives of the place primarily interested.

Action taken.—Replies received were mostly from those which had no records of historical interest. Those which had such records, *e.g.*, Travancore, were in favour of retaining them in their own archives.

Resolution II, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

Resolved that so far as the manuscript part of the Satara Museum is concerned, it should be kept along with the Alienation Office records. Poona.

Action taken.—Satara Museum was closed and its contents transferred to the Deccan College Research Institute, Poona, by the Government of Bombay.

Resolution I, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

I. (*b*) The distribution of historical records is to be deprecated. In the case of Lahore, records referring to the North-West Frontier Province have been handed over to that administration. It is recommended that there should be no further sub-division and that the records sent to Peshawar, at least up to 1880, might, if possible, be brought back to

Lahore and replaced in their original series, copies of papers required being supplied.

Action taken.—It had been decided by the local Government that as the records in question were of local rather than of historical interests, they should remain in the Peshawar office.

Acquisition of Historical Documents

Resolution VIII, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That the Commission recommends to the Government of Madras that such portions of the Mackenzie manuscripts as are showing signs of crumbling should be copied in batches.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Government of Madras.

Resolution IV, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

(i) The Commission is of opinion that the negotiations of the Government of Bombay with Rao Bahadur Parasnis' heirs for acquiring his collection of historical papers should be brought to a speedy conclusion in order to guard against the risk of their being dispersed or lost to the country

(ii) The Commission recommends to the Government of India that steps should be immediately taken to invite subscriptions from the public for purchasing the Parasnis' collection of pictures and historical relics for the nation and that the Imperial and local Governments should be requested to contribute towards the purpose. In this connection the Commission begs to point out that the matter is one of urgent national importance as there is an immediate danger of the collection going out of the country.

Resolution I, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission re-affirms its opinion of last year regarding the historical value of the Parasnis' collection of pictures and urges that negotiations be re-opened for purchasing them with the object of retaining them intact in India. It also urges that the Parasnis' collection of documents and books now in the possession of the Government of Bombay be thrown open to research scholars without further delay.

Action taken.—The Government of Bombay acquired the collection of historical papers in 1928.

Regarding the collection of pictures and historical relics the Government of India did not consider it advisable to take any action.

Resolution IV, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

It was further decided that enquiries be made as to whether Mr. R. S. Whiteway had left any manuscript materials as the result of his examination of the State records in Portugal.

Resolution I, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

In connection with the decision of the third meeting of the Commission that enquiry should be made as to whether Mr. R. S. Whiteway had left any manuscript materials as the result of his examination of the State records in Portugal, it was pointed out that the enquiry should be addressed to the India Office and not to the Government of Bombay, as the latter might not have any information on the subject.

Action taken.—The India Office was addressed for whereabouts of Whiteway s notes, if any.

Resolution VIII, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That in view of the fact that all public records available in Lucknow appear to have been destroyed, and considering the importance of Lucknow as a historic centre, the Commission recommends that steps should be taken to set up machinery for the collection of facsimiles of all documents of historical value in the possession of private families in the province of Oudh by means of a photostat or some other method of permanent reproduction and collecting and making them available for scholars.

Resolution V, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission desires very strongly to learn what the Government of the United Provinces is doing with reference to the recommendation made at the last session for the setting up of machinery for the collection of facsimiles of documents of historical value in the possession of private

families in the province of Oudh and for obtaining whatever public records are available to replace the official records which have apparently been destroyed dealing with Lucknow and its history.

Action taken.—The United Provinces Government took no action for lack of funds.

Inspection of Records

Resolution VIII, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

Para. 2.—The Commission recommended to the Government of India the desirability of its requesting the Indian States to inform the Commission as to the nature, date and extent of the old historical materials (prior to 1850) in their respective archives, and also whether they needed any expert help for the purpose of sifting, preserving and publishing the same.

Resolution III, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

(i) That the Commission recommends to the Government of India that a circular letter should be sent by the Political Department to all the Ruling Princes and Chiefs requesting them to inform the Commission as to the nature, date and extent of the old historical materials (prior to 1850) in their respective archives, and also whether they were in need of any erpert help for the purposes of sifting, preserving and publishing the same.

Resolution III, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That deputations to Indian States for examining State records be not restricted to members of the Commission, and that an enquiry be made of the Kolhapur and Kapurthala Darbars as to the nature of their records. Professor J N. Sarkar expressed his willingness to go to Alwar and possibly Chamba (climate permitting) and it was decided to invite Rao Bahadur D. B. Parasnis to go to Kolhapur.

Action taken.—Baroda records already classified, listed and properly preserved.

Alwar, Kapurthala, Chamba, Kolhapur and Rewa desired expert advice.

Indore, Dhar and Bijawar would take advice when necessary.

Bhopal, Kashmir and Hyderabad wanted some information which was supplied.

No expert member of the Commission was available for visiting the State Record Offices but some information as to the language in which the records were kept were received from some of them. Chamba records are in Persian and Takra, Kapurthala records are in Persian, Urdu and English, Rewa records in Hindi and Kashmir records in Dogri, Urdu and Persian.

Resolution XV, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission does not intend to move in the matter, but they will be prepared to consider the case of any particular State which may desire to have their record rooms inspected by members of the Commission or seek the advice of the Commission on matters relating to the treatment of the official records of the State.

Action taken.—The members of the Commission could not spare the necessary time.

Resolution XII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

(*a*) This Commission endorses in general the report of Dr. S. N. Sen, Keeper of the Imperial Records on the maintenance of the records in the Alienation Office, Poona (Peshwas' Daftar) and urges upon the Government of Bombay to take necessary steps to implement the recommendations and suggestions contained in his note.

(*b*) The Commission appreciates the Bombay Government's action in inviting the Keeper of the Imperial Records to advise them about the Peshwa Daftar, and the action of the Government of India in lending the services of the Keeper of the Imperial Records.

Action taken.—The report of Dr. S. N. Sen, Keeper of the Imperial Records on maintenance of records in the Peshwas' Daftar was forwarded to the Bombay Government. The Government of Bombay was in agreement with 17 of the 19

recommendations made and took immediate action on 10, leaving 7 to be considered after the war.

Resolution VI, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission recommends to the Government that arrangements be made for periodical inspection of the Government of India records as well as those of the Crown Representative in provincial custody, by the Keeper of the Imperial Records and that the Report of the Inspection be circulated to the members of the Commission.

Resolution III, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission is of opinion that it is desirable that the Director of Archives should visit each province once in three years and submit a report to the Government of India and to the Indian Historical Records Commission on the state of preservation in which the old historical records may be found with such suggestions as may lead to improvement in the existing state of things.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation. The provincial Governments agreed to provide all reasonable facilities to the Director of Archives when he would visit their records offices for this purpose. The Director of Archives has since inspected and reported on the Central and Crown records in the custody of the Governments of Assam, Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Madras and the United Provinces.

Resolution XI, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

Resolved that the inspection reports so far submitted by the Director of Archives, Government of India, should not only be published in the proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission but should be published independently in a separate volume for ready reference.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the proposal.

Annual Reports of Records Offices

Resolution VI, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

It was resolved that Records Offices should submit an annual report in the form of a letter specifying—

(1) any new accessions to the collections of records in the office, (It is, however, necessary to report the periodic transfer of departmental papers from Government Secretariats which are still "current" and cannot be treated as historical.)

(2) the collection of records catalogued or listed, whether the list has been printed,

(3) what has been done in the way of calendaring, abstracting and indexing records,

(4) any publications dealing strictly with records that have issued from office,

(5) the nature and quantity of documents mended, repaired and bound, (it is not enough simply to give, *e.g.*, "560 original letters" the date, condition, size and nature of the papers should be briefly described.)

(6) the number of "search cases" (*i.e.*, requests for information or for permission to examine the records), adding (i) the names of the applicants, (ii) the nature of the information required,

(7) any changes or improvements made in the method of preserving, storing and housing records.

Action taken.—The resolution reiterated the Government of India Resolution No. 77 (General), dated the 21st March 1919. The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Coorg, Bihar and Orissa and Bengal submitted their annual reports to the Government of India. The Imperial Record Department has been submitting an annual report since 1908.

Resolution XI, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission considers it extremely desirable to modify the existing procedure to draw up the annual reports of records agencies

in India and recommends to the Government of India, provincial Governments and Indian States that the specification laid down by the Local Records Sub-Committee in para. 4 of its Minutes be accepted and put into force as quickly as possible.

Action taken.—Under consideration of the Government of India.

Preservation of Archives

Resolution VII, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission recommends (1) that where records are tied in bundles the bundles should not be over-large, *i.e.*, not thicker than 10 or 12 inches including boards, and (2) that the use of cardboard boxes (cartons) for unbound papers, specially such as are in danger of falling into decay, should be encouraged.

Action taken.—Bengal did not consider the use of cardboard boxes necessary. Madras and the Punjab obtained samples of such boxes from the National Archives of India.

Resolution X, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India should be asked to approach the Netherlands Government with regard to taking steps for the preservation of the hatchments of the Governors of the Dutch Settlement at Chinsura now hanging in the Church at Chinsura which was formerly used as the old Council Chamber of the Dutch Company.

Action taken.—The Govemment of India declined to interfere at the hatchments could not be regarded as historical records. The matter was referred to Bengal.

Resolution III, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

That the Military Department be requested to state for the information of the Commission their policy as to the preservation, classification and publication of their records at Bombay and Madras.

Action taken.—No military record is at Bombay or Madras.

Resolution III, 16th Session, 1939, Calcutta.

The Commission recommends that all 'C' class papers should be preserved in the Imperial Record Department in New Delhi.

Action taken.—Accepted.

Resolution IV, 8th Session, 1925, Lahore.

That the Punjab Government be requested to issue instructions for the preservation of the documents known as *Kaif'ati dehi* prepared during the early settlements for each village in the province and that on the occasion of the revision of settlements the *Kaifiats* of the preceding settlements may be transposed to the records of the revised settlements.

Action taken.—The Punjab Government declined to take any action as the documents were already properly preserved.

Item No. 4, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

Resolved that the Keeper of the Records of the Government of India be requested to draw up a fuller statement about the merits and demerits and cost of the different methods of preserving and repairing papers and that his note along with that of Dr. Baliga be circulated to the provincial Governments and the Indian States for such action as they might consider advisable to take in the matter. It was also decided that a note on remedies against insect pests submitted by Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan should also be circulated.

Action taken.—The notes were circulated. In the next session it was decided that the Madras Record Office and the Imperial Record Department might pursue whatever method they thought proper.

Resolution VII, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

Resolved that recommendation be made to the Government of Bombay for the proper repair and preservation of such documents in the Peshwas' Daftar as are in a damaged condition.

Action taken.—Necessary action was being taken.

Resolution VIII, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the records created by the new departments in the Centre and in the provinces due to war be preserved in the interest of future historians.

Action taken.—Assam, Bombay, Madras, Punjab and Sind assured that such records, particularly the important ones, would be preserved as a matter of course.

Resolution IV, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission recommends that a Committee consisting of (1) Dr. R. C. Majumdar, (2) Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar, (3) Dr. I. H. Qureshi, (4) Professor K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, (5) Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit B. N. Reu, (6) Dr. K. N. V. Sastri and (7) Dr. S. N. Sen be appointed to consider and recommend to the Government of India the steps to be taken to conserve all the records of historic as distinguished from current importance which are in charge of various provincial Governments and States. This Committee is authorised to make recommendations to the Government of India direct with authority of this Commission should the Committee deem it desirable.

Action taken.—The Government of India appointed a committee consisting of the following members:

(1) Dr. R. C. Majumdar (Chairman), (2) Dr. B. S. Baliga, (3) Dewan Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari, (4) Mr. Y. Bhargava, (5) Mahamahopadhyaya D. V. Potdar, (6) Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit B. N. Reu and (7) Dr. S. N. Sen (Secretary).

The Committee, met at the National Archives on 8 July 1948. The decision of the Committee was placed before the 12th meeting of the R. & P. Committee held on 10 July 1948 and forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution II, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Government of India be approached at once with a view to urging the Government of Bombay to provide racks for the records in the Original Side of the Bombay High Court which were lying on floor.

Action taken.—Racks were provided.

Resolution XI, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That in view of the deplorable condition of the papers relating to the old correspondence of the Judge and Magistrate of Patna and the correspondence of the Thagi and Dacoity Commission in the record room of the District Judge of Patna, a request be made to the Government of Bihar and Orissa to take proper steps for the preservation of these records.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Government of Bihar and Orissa for necessary action.

Resolution VII, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That the Commission wishes to draw the attention of the various Record Offices to the desirability of having a Sturtevant Vacuum Cleaner for preserving documents from dust.

Resolution XIV, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission is concerned to learn that the records of the Government of Bengal are rapidly deteriorating from the ravages of dust and begs to draw the attention of the local Government to the need of acquiring a Sturtevant Vacuum Cleaner for the Record Room as early as possible.

Resolution IX, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That the Commission desires that the above fact may be brought to the notice of the local Governments and Administrations in India with a view to the introduction of the new vacuum cleaner in their record rooms.

Action taken.—Bengal agreed. Vacuum cleaners were already in use in the Imperial Record Department. Bombay also proposed to use one at the Photozincographic Press, Poona.

Resolution VI, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission wishes to draw the attention of the Government of Burma to the recommendation made to the local Government regarding the advisability of having a Sturtevant Vacuum Cleaner for preserving documents from the ravages of dust.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Government of Burma.

Resolution XVII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends to the Government of India the establishment in Delhi or any other suitable place a repair room for records equipped with the latest device for dealing with old documents and to make it available for such use and help as may be required by the provincial Governments, Indian States and the public.

Action taken.—The National Archives of India is awaiting necessary machinery from U. S. A.

Resolution III, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission requests the Government of India to provide as early as possible necessary staff and building for housing and working the machinery and suggests that top priority may be given to the construction of a new wing for housing the laboratory and installing the new machinery.

Action taken.—Necessary action is being taken by the Government of India.

Resolution V, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

That the Indian Historical Records Commission requests the Government of India to invite the attention of the Gwalior and other Indian

States to the system recently adopted by the Government of Bombay at the instance of this Commission (*vide* Resolution III of the ninth meeting, Resolution XV (ii) of the tenth meeting), for taking cheap and rapid photographs of historical records in private possession and making them available to scholars for study, by keeping the photographs in a record office open to the public.

Action taken.—Communicated to several States.

Resolution III, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That the Commission welcomes the idea of photostat machine being introduced in such record offices as required frequent reproductions of old documents.

Resolution IV, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

The Commission recommends, when financial conditions improve, the introduction of the film process for copying old documents in the custody of the Imperial Record Department and in the provinces and the Indian States.

Action taken.—The photostat machine operating at the university also served the needs of the Punjab Government. Bombay proposed to take action. A microfilm machine has been installed at the National Archives of India.

Resolution IV, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission recommends that the following among other measures be adopted to enlarge and perfect the map-section of the Imperial Record Department.

(i) A vigorous attempt be made to secure the oldest editions of maps of villages, towns, forts, tahsils, taluks, districts and provinces of India for being deposited in the Imperial Record Department.

(ii) In securing maps as noted above efforts should be made to secure maps of all varieties such as geological, physiographical, etc.

(iii) That maps to be secured should be of the largest scale available.

(iv) The older or pre-Crown day maps should be kept separately as more useful for purposes of historical study.

(v) That the Surveyor General's Department, the Army Department as well as all other sources, provincial as well as Central, and Indian States be approached for search and help. These authorities may be requested to make available to the Imperial Record Department copies of maps in their possession for study.

(vi) That rare books of travel and journals, since out of print, should also be laid under contribution.

(vii) That microfilm copies of rare maps, including even Rennell's Maps be made available to scholars and learned societies, organised record rooms at cost price.

(viii) That the map collection of the Imperial Record Department be completed by securing microfilmed copies of maps which may not be procured in the original for being deposited in the Imperial Record Department.

(ix) That a list of rare historical maps available in the Imperial Record Department be published or cyclostyled from time to time and supplied to members and learned institutions.

Action taken.—This would be considered along with a similar item in the National Archives of India Post-war Reorganization Scheme.

Resolution IX, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That in the opinion of the Commission it is desirable for the Government of India to print a manual which would describe the best methods of preserving, repairing, sorting and indexing records, with practical hints from the record offices in England.

Action taken.—A pamphlet containing instructions relating to storage, preservation and repair of old records was published in 1932 and distributed to interested persons and institutions.

Resolution XI, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends that a journal dealing mainly with the science of preservation and administration of archives be published from the Imperial Record Department.

Resolution V, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission recommends that the programme of publication adopted at the last annual meeting and the scheme for the publication of a journal, be not suspended on account of the exigencies created by the war.

Action taken.—The Government of India postponed the publication of the journal for the duration of the war due to paper scarcity. In 1946 they sanctioned publication and the first number (January 1947) was published in April. Since then 3 more issues have been published.

Resolution I, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

(ii) *Current Records Office.*—The records (Punjab records) are tied in cardboard backs and are kept in wooden cupboards against the wall. This method of storing the records lays them open to danger from insects, damp and fire.

(iv) It is strongly recommended that as funds become available metal racks should be substituted for those now used.

Action taken.—Necessary action was being taken.

Item V, Misc. (vi), 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

The Commission approved of the scheme for the establishment of a Central Judicial Records Office in Calcutta, where records from the

District Judges' Offices in Bengal shall be collected and preserved and would be glad to know whether arrangements of this kind are being made by the other High Courts in India.

With regard to the records in Collectors' Offices the Commission will be glad to know what arrangements have been made by the various Governments for their preservation.

Action taken.—Owing to financial stringency the Bengal Government had dropped the scheme for the time being.

Bengal, Madras, United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, Central Provinces, North-West Frontier Province. Assam, Coorg and Baluchistan submitted information regarding the methods employed for the preservation of their records.

Weeding and Classification of Records

Resolution I, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India be advised to act upon the report of the Sub-Committee of the Commission on the weeding of pre-Mutiny records in the Imperial Record Department.

Action taken.—A Standing Local Sub-Committee was appointed by the Government of India to advise the Keeper of the Records in weeding pre-Mutiny records.

Resolution V, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

(i) The quantity of papers shown as "unclassified" in the report of the Records Sub-Committee, dated the 12th November 1927 (page 156 of Volume X of Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission), was determined on an average calculation of the capacity of a bundle of records, but from the experience since gained in the matter, it appears to the Commission that the actual number of documents which remain to be classified will be somewhat less than was originally assumed. The Commission therefore thinks that with the staff at present detailed for the classification of the Company records in the Imperial Record Department at Calcutta, the work should be completed in about seven years' time.

Action taken.—Classification was completed in February 1940.

Resolution II, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

That the attention of the Governments of Bombay and Madras be drawn to the policy of the Government of India regarding the preservation of historical documents, and that the destruction of all records previous to 1856 be discontinued, and that the said records be classified.

Action taken.—Madras asked for and was supplied with rules for classification.

Resolution V, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the provincial Governments having no organised records offices should be requested to take such steps as may prevent the weeding out of historical records in their divisional and district offices without previous scrutiny by the local members of the Commission.

Action taken.—The Government of India did not take any action as they had already addressed the authorities concerned on the subject.

Resolution IX, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission recommends that the paper should be destroyed and that the Secretary should place similar useless documents before the future meetings of the Commission.

Action taken.—Instructions noted. The paper referred to was a torn and illegible Public Consultation, dated 17 August 1778, No. 40.

Resolution VII, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

(*a*) This Commission has carefully examined the rules framed by the Local Records Sub-Committee and approved by the Government of India for weeding their records and are of opinion that the addenda to rules suggested in the Agenda should be embodied in the set of rules and be adopted by the Central Government, His Excellency the Crown Representative (in Centre and Residencies), provincial Governments and Indian States.

(*b*) The Commission further recommends that the present time is inopportune for weeding of records in the Government and State agencies and therefore strongly urges upon the authorities concerned that no weeding of any records should be undertaken till a definite legislation is passed on the future constitution of the country.

Action taken.—The Government of India forwarded the resolutions to the provincial Governments and States for necessary action.

Resolution VII, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission recommends to the Government of India that Section 5 of Act III of 1879, Government of India Act—to authorise the destruction of useless records—be so amended that all rules made under this Act shall be published in the Gazettes, etc., after being confirmed by the local Government or Governments and sanctioned by the Governor-General-in-Council after obtaining the views of the Indian Historical Records Commission in the matter.

Action taken.—The Government of India thought it inopportune to introduce preventive legislation at the moment but addressed provincial and State Governments suggesting proper care before the records were weeded. Madras followed a procedure which, according to Madras Government, prevented destruction of important records. Bombay was not intending to destroy any record for the time being. Orissa, Surguja and Puddukkottai States were taking care that no important record was destroyed.

Resolution VII, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Government of India be recommended (1) to approach his Lordship the Chief Justice of Bengal with regard to the better preservation, classification, arrangement, repairing and indexing of the old records of the Mayor's Court, the Court of Quarter Sessions and the Supreme Court, as has been done in the case of the old records of the Sadar Diwani and Sadar Nizamat Adalat, in view of their historical importance, and (2) to invite their Lordships the Chief Justices of Madras and Bombay to report on the condition of the records in their High Courts prior to the establishment of the High Court in each presidency.

Action taken.—Calcutta High Court pleaded inability to do as recommended due to lack of staff. The Supreme Court records at Madras were carefully preserved and most of the Mayor's Court records transferred to Madras Record Office. The Original Side records in Bombay were lying on the floor but the Appellate Side records were in satisfactory condition.

Resolution V, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

Resolved that this Commission requests the Calcutta High Court not to destroy any of the old records in its custody, but to transfer them to some record office in Bengal or to any university in the province.

Resolution X, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission requests the High Court of Calcutta to consult such members of the Commission as ordinarily reside in Bengal before it decides to destroy any of its old records and the Commission further suggests that the Calcutta University may be given an opportunity of preserving such records as may be finally condemned for destruction.

Resolution VIII, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission authorizes the Secretary to obtain the rules from the Calcutta High Court and after scrutinizing them with the legal help available from the Government of India, may circulate them to the members for opinion.

Resolution III, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that (i) the opinion of the Solicitor to the Government of India may be awaited and that (ii) the names of Mr. D. N. Banerjee, Dacca University and Dr. N. K. Sinha, Calcutta University may be forwarded to the Registrar, Calcutta High Court, as local experts whose services the Hon'ble the Chief Justice may be pleased to utilise in determining historical importance of records marked out for weeding.

Action taken.—The Calcutta High Court was in favour of consulting an expert member of the Royal Asiatic Society, Bengal, or persons deputed by the University of Calcutta before weeding but on the Indian Historical Records Commission's insistence, agreed to utilize the services of experts nominated by the Commission.

Resolution IV, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the Secretary be authorised to enquire about the procedure followed by High Courts other than that of Calcutta in weeding out their old records.

Action taken.—The High Courts of Allahabad, Bombay, Madras and Nagpur, Judicial Commissioner's Court, Peshawar and Chief Court of Oudh, Lucknow, explained the procedure followed in weeding. (Some forwarded their weeding rules.)

Resolution II. 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

This Commission notes with satisfaction that the Calcutta High Court has agreed to utilise the services of experts nominated by the Indian Historical Records Commission for advice in regard to the weeding of old records and it recommends that similar procedure may be observed by other High Courts and Chief Courts in India with regard to their records.

Action taken.—The High Court of Madras would consult the Curator, Madras Record Office, in the first instance and the other members if necessary. Patna also agreed to utilise the advice of a local expert nominated by the Indian Historical Records Commission. On an enquiry from Lahore High Court it was informed that no expenditure would be involved if local members were consulted.

Resolution VIII, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission recommends in continuation of Resolution II of the 21st session that all the High and Chief Courts may avail the services of the local members (Ordinary, Associate, or Corresponding) for advice in regard to weeding and in that case the question of paying travelling allowance or any other expenditure will not arise.

Action taken.—Resolution forwarded to all provincial Governments and the Registrar, High Court of Judicature, Calcutta, for necessary action.

Legislation for Preservation of Archives

Resolution VIII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That in the opinion of the Commission legislation similar to that in existence in England should be introduced at an early date, both by the Government of India and the provincial Governments, for the preservation, destruction, etc., of public documents.

Resolution IX, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

Resolved that the Commission reiterates its request to the Government of India to undertake suitable legislation, by amendment of Act III of 1879 or otherwise for preventing export or transfer outside of records, historical documents and manuscripts from the Indian Union, and unwarranted destruction thereof.

Action taken.—The matter is under consideration.

Access to Records

Resolution VII, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

(*a*) The joint note by Professors Sarkar and Thakore on encouraging research might be circulated for the information of the universities.

(*b*) It might be brought to the notice of the universities that, where any degree can be taken by thesis, the records might be used by students of history.

(*c*) The best plan would be for the Professors of History and Economics to get in touch with the records office and guide their students.

Action taken.—Commended to the local Governments.

Resolution XV, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

(i) The Commission recommends that Mr. H. L. O. Garrett's note on the practical utilisation of historical records be circulated to all universities in India.

(ii) The Commission further recommends that his note on the reproduction of old family documents in the Punjab be circulated to all provincial Governments for consideration and necessary action.

Action taken.—(i) Circulated to the universities in India.
(ii) Communicated to the provincial Governments.

Resolution VIII, 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

This Commission recommends to the provincial Governments and States to institute scholarships to enable competent students to carry on original investigations in the Central and provincial records offices and to finance the publication of the results of their research work when completed.

Action taken.—Madras Government gave students all facilities and advice to carry on their researches in the Madras Record Office. So it did not consider it necessary to institute any scholarship.

Bombay Government informed that there was a provision of scholarships for research in history at the Deccan College Post-graduate and Research Institute, Poona. Further action was considered unnecessary.

Assam, C.P. and Sind were not prepared to take any action in this matter.

Orissa Government were prepared to divert one of the existing research scholarships for historical research.

Most of the States including Mewar, Mysore, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Patiala, Kolhapur, Alwar, Rampur, Jaipur and Gwalior besides others accepted the principle of the proposal and agreed to implement the same when suitable scholars were available. Travancore already had made provision for scholarships in the Department of History and Tonk promised to grant a scholarship of Rs. 50 per month to a student of the State for carrying on research. Trivandrum University was authorised by law to make grants for financing publication of results of such research. Many States did not consider any action necessary either because of financial reasons or because of the dearth of historical material in their possession.

Resolution VIII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

In view of the fact that most of the Indian States have not sent any reply to its query and the information furnished by some States is so meagre that it is not possible to form any idea of the research facilities *afforded to bonâ fide students*, resolved that the Commission again requests the Indian States to furnish the necessary information at an early date

Action taken.—*Pudukkottai*, *Dungarpur*, Banswara, Surguja, Bilaspur, Kapurthala, Chamba and Cochin *reported* that they allowed research facilities to *bonâ fide* research

scholars. Travancore, Khairpur, Tehri (Garhwal), Sirmur, etc., were preparing catalogues, indexes, etc., of their documents but no research facilities appear to have been provided. Kashmir had indexed the records in its possession but were not in favour of allowing research facilities. Kolhapur, Aundh, Sangli, Patiala, Karauli, Bastar, Patna, etc., said that they did not possess any document of historical importance.

Resolution V, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

Subject to the approval of the Government of India the revised rules regulating the access of the public to the records may be introduced in the Imperial Record Office and brought to the notice of other offices.

Action taken.—The rules were approved and introduced in the Imperial Record Department. They were commended to the universities and educational institutions. The rules were immediately introduced in Bengal, Madras and Coorg Records Offices. Since then others have followed suit.

Resolution IX, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends that the rules regulating the access of the public to the records in the Central Provinces Secretariat Record Room be printed and published in the provincial gazette and made available for distribution to historical societies and universities.

Item 10, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

The Chairman suggested that a copy of the latest rules of the Imperial Record Department should be forwarded to every provincial government with a request that if action on similar lines is taken it will be greatly helpful to the cause of research.

Action taken.—The research rules of the Imperial Record Department were revised in 1940. The Governments

of Madras, Punjab (late), U.P., C.P. and Berar and Bombay amended their rules in the light of the *Imperial Record Department Historical Research Rules*. The Assam Government did not consider any amendment in the rules necessary.

Resolution V, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

The means of giving greater publicity to the nature and value of the records in the Imperial Record Department, Calcutta, and of attracting private researches on them. The Commission was of opinion that a discussion of the question was premature till a handbook of the contents of the Record Office was published.

Action taken.—It was accepted by the Government of India

Resolution VIII, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Government of India be requested to give the public unrestricted access to the records up to the year 1800.

Resolution VI, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

The Commission recommends to the Government of India the desirability of throwing open the records of the Public Works, Legislative and Finance Departments between the years 1860 and 1898 to *bonâ fide* research scholars under certain conditions.

Action taken.—The Government of India and His Excellency the Crown Representative threw open their non-confidential records up to 1880 to the *bonâ fide* research scholars in 1940.

Resolution VII, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission places on record their strong disapproval of the revised rules regulating the access of the public to the records of the Government of India and the Crown Representative in the custody of the Imperial Record Department in so far as they relate to the imposition

of extra fees and the compulsory rules for typing documents and recommends that rules 3, 8, 9 and 17 be amended in the light of the discussion of the Commission, and that the Chairman do explain the views of the Commission to the Government of India.

Resolution I, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

Resolved that no fee for censoring should be charged and that transcripts in hand-writing without any limitation of the number of pages should be accepted if considered legible by the Keeper of the Records.

Action taken.—Inspection and examination fees were abolished in 1938. Hand-written transcripts, if legible are accepted without limitation of the number of pages in the Imperial Record Department.

Resolution VIII, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission recommends that in respect of scrutiny of excerpts submitted by research scholars no distinction between scholars from British India and Indian State should be made and that the rules which apply to scholars from British India should also apply to scholars from Indian States in all respects.

Action taken.—The Government of India did not consider any change in the existing system necessary. The States acceding to the Indian Union have now been placed on par with the provinces.

Resolution IX, 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

This Commission views the suggestion with sympathy.

Action taken.—There was a suggestion that the Indian Historical Records Commission should make suitable arrangements for the study of the valuable historical documents in the possession of the Assam

Government. The Government of India were unable to take any action on this resolution.

Resolution III, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission recommends to the Government of Bombay the desirability of placing such unprinted transcripts from these records as have been passed by Government or any local committee advising them, in a reading room for study and transcription by students holding permits, in the presence of some officer.

Resolution IV, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission recommends to the consideration of the Government of Bombay the adoption of the following rules:—

Such papers among the records in the Poona Alienation Office as are not of historical or political character but supply only economic information or data unlikely to disturb existing land rights or political relations, may be placed, in the original, in the reading room for study on previous requisition by approved applicants.

Resolution V, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That a limited number of scholars (both from British India and the Indian States) and record officers (from the Indian States) may, subject to the previous approval of the Government of Bombay and the facilities of supervision available, be permitted to work in the record room of the Peshwas' Daftar, to learn and (where possible assist in) the work of exploring and studying the Marathi records that is now being conducted there under an expert staff appointed by Government and that the persons enjoying such permission should be subjected to the following rules, namely:—

(*a*) They are to be supplied with volumes or bundles only on written requisition, provided that these volumes or bundles do not belong to the sections that are classed as confidential.

(*b*) No note or transcript is to be allowed to be taken out of the record room without the written approval of the Record Keeper on each requisition.

(*c*) Every person applying for a permit must sign a declaration that he will not use any information gathered from these records for the purpose of litigation or appeal to Government.

Action taken.—The Government of Bombay agreed to consider the question of placing the unprinted transcripts in a reading room when the printing of the *Selections from the Peshwas' Daftar* already undertaken by them was completed. 45 volumes of Selections embodying the cream of the Marathi records were published between 1930 and 1934 under the editorship of Rao Bahadur G. S. Sardesai and 11 volumes of the *Poona Residency Correspondence* were published under the joint editorship of Sir Jadunath Sarkar and Rao Bahadur G. S. Sardesai between 1936 and 1943. *Bonâ fide* research scholars were allowed to consult the records under rules which were according to the Government of Bombay working satisfactorily. Such scholars were given facilities to learn the work of exploring and studying the Marathi records.

Resolution XXI, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends to the Government of India that early steps be taken for a proper examination of the records of the pre-Mutiny period in the custody of the British Residencies and those which are not of confidential character be published and thrown open to the *bonâ fide* research scholars.

Action taken.—British Residency Records up to 1880 were thrown open to research scholars by the Crown Representative. Residents were instructed to frame rules of access to the records on the lines of the *Imperial Record Department Historical Research Rules.* The question of publication of Residency records would be taken up after the war.

Reproduction of Records and Historical Documents

Resolution VI, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

The Commission was unable to lay down any general principle and was of opinion that the question of printing particular records should be discussed on their merits.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the resolution.

Resolution IV, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

That this Commission recommends to local Governments to increase their expenditure on the publication of their public records.

Action taken.—Resolution brought to the notice of the local Governments.

Resolution VII, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the principal Indian States be addressed to ascertain whether they would be prepared to finance a publication programme regarding records in the custody of the British Residencies in India.

Action taken.—The Government of India informed the Commission that the Crown Representative had already decided that the publication of the Residencies' records should wait till normal time returned.

Resolution III, 10th Session, 1932, Rangoon.

The Commission expresses its pleasure on learning that the Government of Bombay has assisted Mr. H. G. Franks in transcribing and cataloguing the Poona Residency records, and requests that the assistance should be continued until the work is completed.

Resolution II, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the thanks of the Commission be conveyed to the Government of Bombay for their having accepted a working scheme for the speedy

completion of the exploration and sorting of the Marathi records in the Poona Alienation Office, and for their undertaking to publish selections from those records in such an excellent form as the four volumes already issued.

Resolution I, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission begs to thank the Government of Bombay and their editor, Rao Bahadur G. S. Sardesai, for publishing the Marathi historical papers of the Peshwas' Daftar in 45 volumes and commencing the Poona Residency Correspondence Series, and places on record their whole-hearted appreciation of the very able manner in which the honorary editors of the latter series, Sir Jadunath Sarkar and Rao Bahadur Sardesai, are accomplishing the arduous work that they had undertaken at such personal sacrifice.

Action taken.—Please see action taken on Resolutions III, IV, V, 13th Session, 1930, Patna, under "Facilities for research among records"

Resolution X, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends to the Government of the Central Provinces the desirability of resuming the publication of the old historical documents in its possession when the provincial finances permit, as the records dealing with historical information could usefully be made available to scholars.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar.

Resolution VIII, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

The Commission recommends the publication of a collection of papers by Lieutenant Colonel Tod relating to the Pindaris.

Resolution XVIII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission recommends that the document be properly edited and printed and that funds be asked for from the Government of India for this purpose.

Action taken.—The publication of Tod's manuscripts was decided upon in 1920 but it was only in 1937 that it was edited by the Secretary, the Indian Historical Records Commission and published as an appendix to the Proceedings Volume for 1937.

Resolution VI, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

The Commission agreed to refer the note on the Old Coast Army of Madras presented by Mr. Dodwell to General Sir Alfred Bingley as regards its publication.

Resolution III, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

After some discussion it was decided that it should be recommended to the Government of India that the Indian Historical Records Commission should bring out a series of monographs on subjects connected with Indian history on the lines of the Indian Records Series and the Indian Text Series: that Mr. Dodwell's monograph should form the first volume of the series; and that Lieutenant-Colonel Tod's manuscripts relating to the Pindaris discovered in the Central Provinces Record Room, which are being edited by Mr. C. U. Wills, should form the second volume of the series; and that the Central Provinces Government should be approached on this subject. The Commission further decided that a Committee consisting of the following should be formed to settle details about the publication of the series :—Professor Jadunath Sarkar, Mr. H. Dodwell and Mr. J. M. Mitra. The Commission further recommended that an honorarium to be decided by the Government of India should be granted to Mr. Dodwell for his monograph on the Old Coast Army.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation regarding the publication of a series of monographs. Dodwell's monograph which was published in 1922 under the title " Sepoy Recruitment in the Old Madras Army " was the first of the Series. About Tod's manuscripts see above. The Series was not continued.

Resolution X, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission recommended to the Government of Madras that arrangements may be made by them for the issue of publications from the Mackenzie Manuscripts and the Dutch records in their custody according to the suggestion made by Dewan Bahadur Dr. S. Krishnaswami Aiyangar.

Action taken.—The Madras Government considered the suggestion impracticable. They pointed out that the Madras University was publishing selected manuscripts from the Mackenzie Collection.

Resolution XX, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends to the Portuguese Government in India the revival and continuance of the Archive Portuguese Oriental which has been discontinued.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Portuguese Government in India.

Resolution VII, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

The Commission endorsed the suggestion of Archdeacon Firminger that a volume dealing with circular letters, Codes (Civil) of Government, 1764-1800, should be published for each of the Presidencies in order to obviate the necessity of dealing with such documents in various publications of records, and suggested that this recommendation should be brought to the notice of the provincial Governments.

Action taken.—The Government of India recommended the suggestion to the local Governments.

Resolution VII, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission strongly urges the continuation of the publication of the "English Factory Series" on the lines proposed and initiated by Sir William Foster; but considers that the work could be carried out in a more economical manner than that suggested in the proposed scheme

if roughly seven years instead of four were included in each volume and the work carried out on a slightly less elaborate and extensive scale, in which case the series would be brought down to 1708 in five or six volumes only for each Presidency, amounting to about fifteen or eighteen volumes in all. The work would then be completed in about twelve years at a cost of, say £ 300 a year to each Presidency. The Commission hopes that this may be met in whole by the Central Government it the local Governments concerned are unable to contribute the expenditure. The Commission also begs to point out the supreme importance of this work for students not only of the history of British India but also of the history of the Marathas, Sikhs and other Hindu States and the history of the Mughal Empire.

Resolution IV, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

In view of the present financial difficulties the Commission agrees with the proposal of the Government of India to postpone the work for 5 years, but express the hope that as soon as the financial position permits, the publication of the series may be resumed.

Action taken.—The suggestion that the Series should be split into three series representing the Western Presidency, the Coromandel Coast and Bengal was accepted. One volume dealing with the Western Presidency covering seven years (1670-77) as recommended by the Commission was edited by Sir Charles Fawcett and published in 1936.

Resolution II, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends that the Five-year Publication Programme of the Imperial Record Department be approved.

Action taken.—The programme was approved by the Government of India.

Resolution III, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

The Commission requests the Government of India to send a communication to the provincial Governments, Indian States, universities

and learned societies that scholars in their employment should be allowed all facilities in the shape of travelling expenses and leave (where necessary) to enable them to participate in the publication scheme of the Imperial Record Department.

Action taken.—The publication programme was well received throughout the country and the province of Orissa, the Madras, Annamalai, Banaras and Travancore Universities, the States of Junagadh, Baroda, Tripura, Patna, Bikaner, Mewar, Alwar, Dholpur, Mayurbhanj, Cooch-Behar, Kalahandi, Surguja, Travancore, Cochin, Pudukkottai, Jodhpur, Bharatpur, Kotah, Tehri (Garhwal), Sirmur, Kalsia, Indore, the Indian Geographical Society and the Adyar Library agreed to grant facilities in the shape of travelling allowances and leave to the scholars in their employment.

Madras in view of its own publication scheme declared its inability to incur any expenditure in connection with the publication scheme of the Government of India. Assam, U.P., Punjab, Mysore, Jaipur and Punjab University also expressed their inability to accept the recommendation.

Resolution IV, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

(*a*) This Commission recommends that a copy of the Five-year Publication Programme be forwarded to the provincial Governments and Indian States with a request that they should also arrange for the publication of the records in their custody on similar lines as far as practicable. The Commission is aware that the Government of Madras has its own publication scheme.

(*b*) The Commission further recommends that a copy of the resolution may be forwarded to the Government of Free French and Portuguese India also.

Action taken.—(*a*) Bombay, Madras, Baroda, etc., had their own publication programme and they would carry on the same. Junagadh, Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj, Sarangarh, etc., all agreed to take action on the lines recommended. Travancore had already published some volumes and were contemplating further publication. Bengal, Punjab and Kashmir were unwilling to take any action until the normal times returned.

(*b*) The Portuguese Government agreed to the resolution. The French Government in India informed that the French Indian Historical Society was publishing books according to a scheme drawn up by them.

Resolution VI, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

The Indian Historical Records Commission requests the Government of India to draw the attention of His Highness the Maharaja Sindhia's Government to the desirability of establishing a department for collecting and publishing records connected with its history and the history of the States with which it had relations in the past. The Commission is encouraged to make this recommendation in view of the admirable efficiency and success of the sister department of Archaeology already established by the Gwalior State.

Item IX, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

(i) The Commission recorded its appreciation of the valuable service to history rendered by Sardar Anand Rao Bhau Sahib Phalke of Gwalior in printing the Kotah records relating to the Sindhias and desired that the Government of India might be pleased to convey the thanks of the Commission to the Gwalior Durbar and through them to Sardar Phalke for their laudable endeavours in supplying the needs of this branch of Indian history.

(ii) The Commission also desires that the Gwalior Government may be requested to reprint for the use of the public a cheap edition of the

four volumes of Marathi State papers relating to the Sindhias, of which a very limited number was privately printed at the expense of the Gwalior State under the editorship of the late Rao Bahadur D. B. Parasnis.

Resolution II, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission records their appreciation of the work of the Gwalior Durbar in publishing a cheap edition of Mahadji Sindhia's letters and hopes that they will continue such useful work.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Gwalior Government.

Resolution V, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission requests the Punjab Government to reduce the prices of their historical publications to a figure within the means of our student community as has been done in the case of the Bombay Government's Marathi Series of Selections from the Peshwas' Daftar and the volumes of the Poona Residency English Correspondence.

Action taken.—The prices were reduced in 1940.

Resolution I, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

(i) A number of copies of the Bengal and Madras papers collected and printed by the late Sir G. W. Forrest as Officer-in-Charge of the Records of the Government of India and preserved in the Imperial Record Department (3 volumes) should be distributed free to the Indian universities (16), the Record Offices in India, the Research Societies in India, the Royal Asiatic Society (London), the British Museum, London University, Oxford University, Cambridge University, the India Office, the Royal Historical Society and Manchester University.

(ii) And that not more than 200 copies be put up for sale at Rs. 20 per volume and the Press-list at Rs. 15 a copy.

Action taken.—(i) The volumes were published in 1928 and distributed to Record Offices, universities and other learned institutions as desired.

(ii) The three volumes are now priced at Rs. 5, Rs. 7-8-0 and Rs. 5 respectively and the Press-list of the above at Re. 1-5-6 only.

Resolution XII, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission recommends that there should be a free exchange between the various provincial Governments and the Central Government of all Record Room publications, including those of the Imperial Record Department.

Action taken.—The Central Government and all local Governments accepted the recommendation.

Resolution VI, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

H. E. H. the Nizam's Government and the Baroda State be included in the scheme of the free interchange of Record Room publications in India.

Action taken.—Accepted.

Resolution XVI, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends that all the universities in India be placed on the free distribution list of the Central, provincial and State Governments regarding such of their publications as are and would be for sale.

Action taken.—In view of the shortage of paper the Government of India considered the time inopportune for taking any action.

Resolution IX, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission recommends that the Indian universities be requested to send two copies of published works dealing with any period of Indian history undertaken by the members of their respective teaching

staff, to the library of the Imperial Record Department, provided such works are based, at least in part, on unpublished records.

Action taken.—Dacca, Lucknow, Delhi, Osmania, Patna, Mysore, Andhra, Annamalai, Madras, Calcutta, Travancore, Allahabad Universities agreed to the proposal and the National Archives of India Library receives their publications as and when issued. Banaras has no such publication. Agra University which is a purely affiliating university requested the affiliated colleges to do the needful.

Printing of Inscriptions on Christian Tombs

Resolution II, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

The Commission decided to draw the attention of the Government of India to the importance of the preparation of correct lists of European burial-grounds with inscriptions on tombs. It was of opinion that the local Governments should be asked to appoint suitable editors to catalogue the various tombs and to edit the inscriptions and to report periodically their progress and to forward the same to the Government of India for the information of the Commission. The Commission further suggested that the assistance of Archdeacons would be useful to the preparation of such lists.

Resolution V, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

The Commission agreed with the Government of Madras that fresh lists of European burial-grounds with inscription on tombs are not necessary for Madras unless it is definitely proved that the existing lists are full of errors.

Resolution IV, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

(i) That the local Governments be requested to bring the lists up to date with necessary corrections and to send the revised copies for the information of the Commission.

Resolution VI, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

It was resolved that the Government of Bengal be requested to print the list of inscriptions on Christian tombs and monuments which has been compiled from the materials furnished to them by the Public Works Department of that Government.

Action taken.—The Government of India were in favour of recording all inscriptions on tombs of the 17th and 18th centuries and also of the 19th century at least up to 1857.

Bengal submitted a corrected list of inscriptions but expressed its inability to print the list on financial grounds.

Madras had already published lists of inscriptions and was not inclined to prepare fresh lists unless they contained copious errors but later submitted a corrected list as was done by Delhi and the United Provinces.

Coorg submitted a typed list.

Resolution VII, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

That the Government of Bombay be requested to print selected inscriptions from the graveyards of European Settlements previous to 1800.

Resolution VI, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That the Commission desires to draw the attention of the Government of Bombay to the necessity of publishing without delay selected inscriptions from the European graveyards in Western India.

Resolution IV, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission again calls the attention of the Government of Bombay to the necessity of publishing as soon as possible selected inscriptions from European graveyards in Western India.

Resolution XII, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission is of opinion that, instead of publishing selected inscriptions as recommended in Resolution IV passed at its Rangoon session, the Government of Bombay be requested to have all inscriptions prior to 1860 copied and published and circulated to historical societies.

Resolution IV, 12th Session, 1929, Gwalior.

(ii) That it be suggested to the Government of Bombay that the list for the Bombay Presidency should be sent to Mr Rawlinson, who is willing to revise it.

Action taken.—The Government of Bombay expressed inability to print inscriptions from the graveyards of European Settlements for want of funds.

Resolution XVI, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission heartily endorses the proposal mentioned by H. E. the Governor of Burma in his inaugural speech and now being considered by the university authorities of Rangoon to take steps to publish photographic plates of all original inscriptions of Burma, and requests the Government of Burma to render all possible assistance in furthering this scheme.

Action taken.—Communicated to the Government of Burma.

Resolution XIII, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission will be glad to see the list (inscriptions) which, it is understood, has been published by the Government of the Punjab.

Action taken.—Two volumes of inscriptions were supplied by the Government of the Punjab.

Resolution XI, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends that a copy of Sir Evan Cotton's notes be forwarded to the Government of Bihar and Orissa with the request that necessary corrections may be made in the book.

Action taken.—The book referred to was *List of Old Inscriptions in Christian Burial Grounds in the Province of Bihar and Orissa*. The Government of Bihar and Orissa made necessary corrections.

Resolution XII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That a copy of Sir Evan Cotton's paper be sent to the Government of Bihar and Orissa for such action as they may consider fit.

Action taken.—In a paper entitled " The Patna Massacre of 1763 " submitted to the 13th session of the Commission at Patna, Sir Evan Cotton pointed out that the inscription on the Memorial Pillar in the Old Patna Cemetery contained certain inaccuracies and suggested certain corrections and omissions. Subsequently necessary action was taken.

Resolution XIII, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission begs to invite the attention of the Government of Bihar and Orissa to the desirability of placing commemorative tablets on the historical buildings in Patna on the lines adopted in Calcutta.

Action taken.—The Bihar Government agreed to place a memorial tablet on the old Opium building at Gulzarbagh commemorating the enthronement of Emperor Shah Alam.

Resolution XIV, 13th Session, 1930, Patna.

That the Commission recommends to the various Governments the desirability of placing memorial tablets on historic sites (such as the field of Panipat) and preserving similar monuments where they already exist.

Action taken.—On an inquiry from the Bihar Government the Commission suggested erection of a tablet at Tukaroi in the province of Bengal to commemorate the victory of Akbar over Daud but the Government of Bengal declined to take any action.

Madras decided to erect memorial tablets at seven sites—namely (1) Fort St. David; (2) Porto Novo; (3) The ruined fort of Karunguli; (4) The ruined fort of Pulicat ; (5) Angleyulapadu; (6) Wandiwash; (7) Kappakadavu

Preparation of Lists, Handbooks etc

Resolution V, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That the Commission is of opinion that the work of examining and cataloguing the Peshwas' Daftar and the Poona Residency papers should not be delayed any longer, and that the money necessary for the purpose should be provided out of the current year's budget if possible in order to make an immediate start.

Resolution II, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission re-affirms last year's resolution regarding the Peshawas' Daftar and urges upon the Government of Bombay the necessity of making provision in their next budget to enable the work of preliminary inspection to be carried out immediately.

Resolution III, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission expresses its pleasure on learning that the Government of Bombay has assisted Mr. H. G. Franks in transcribing and cataloguing the Poona Residency Records, and requests that the assistance should be continued until the work is completed.

Resolution I, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission requests the Government of Bombay to expedite the matter (re. Peshawas' Daftar).

Resolution II, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends that the work of transcribing and cataloguing the Poona Residency records be continued, in view of the satisfactory progress already made and the valuable new material brought to light.

Resolution VII. 12th Session. 1929, Gwalior.

(i) That this Commission whilst desiring to express its appreciation of what has recently been done by the Bombay Government for the

preservation and classification of the records in the Peshwas' Daftar, commends the suggestion contained in Sir Jadunath Sarkar's note above to the notice of that Government for further action and would express the hope that early steps may be taken to carry them into effect.

(ii) The Commission further recommends that the purely historical documents already selected and classified should be thrown open to students subject to the usual rules, and that a hand-list of these only should be compiled and printed as soon as possible.

Action taken.—(i) Sir Jadunath Sarkar visited the Peshwas' Daftar in January 1930 and made certain proposals for the selection of papers of historical importance. The papers so selected were being published.

(ii) Students were permitted to inspect records. The Bombay Government did not consider hand-listing necessary as the papers themselves were being published.

Please also see action taken on Resolutions III, IV and V, 13th Session, 1930, Patna under "Facilities for research among records"

Resolution IV, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

The Commission recommends that the note presented by Messrs. Scholfield and Dodwell be circulated to local Governments as a guide for the commencement of handbooks.

Resolution VII, 6th Session, 1924, Madras.

That the Government of India may be requested to sanction the immediate publication of the handbook as it will materially assist students of history, enable local committees to give their opinion as to the value of particular documents, and help the record office in answering questions relating to the records.

Action taken.—Bihar and Orissa—A handbook of the Bihar and Orissa Provincial Records from 1771-1859

compiled by Principal K. P. Mitra was published in 1933.

Bombay—Kindersley's handbook was published in 1921.

Bengal—There are abstract catalogues of guide-books. A detailed handbook is under preparation.

Madras—*A guide to the Records preserved in Madras Record Office* was published in 1936. Madras has two other guides: (i) J. Talboys Wheeler's *Handbook to the Madras Records* (1907) and (ii) H. Dodwell's *Report on the Madras Records* (1916).

Government of India—*A Handbook to the Records of the Government of India in the Imperial Record Department, 1748-1859* was published in 1925.

Central Provinces, Assam and Sind have none.

United Provinces—*A Handbook to the English pre-Mutiny records in the Government Record Rooms of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh* by D. Dewar was published in 1920.

Resolution IV, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission strongly feels the need of a "Consolidated Guide to the Archives in India" and recommends that the provincial Governments and Indian States be requested to co-operate with the Imperial Record Department in the preparation of a complete and up-to-date handbook of Indian Archives.

Action taken.—Cochin, Baroda, Bombay, Chamba and Pudukkottai submitted information either in the form of handbooks or lists. Madras would bring out a complete and revised handbook after the war.

Orissa, Bengal and Mandi were taking action on the lines suggested.

United Provinces, Punjab, Bihar, N.-W.F.P., Sind, Mysore, Jind, Jaipur, Indore and Assam deferred

action during the pendency of the war. The present position is not known.

Cooch-Behar declined to take action.

Patiala, Bahawalpur, Kapurthala, Nabha, Mayurbhanj, Malerkotla, Kotah, Kalsia, Bikaner, Bundi, Khairpur, Sirmur, Mewar, Banswara and Partabgarh expressed their willingness to co-operate in the scheme.

Resolution X, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the provincial Governments and Indian States may give suitable publicity to the project of compiling a Consolidated Guide to the Public and Private Archives in India.

Action taken.—Most of the provinces and States gave immediate publicity to the resolution either through newspapers, State Gazettes or personal communications to persons and institutions possessing records. Others promised to act according to the resolution. Only Punjab and Sind were not in favour of taking any action for the time being.

Resolution IX, 1st Session, 1919, Simla.

That the Government of India be requested to ascertain from the Government of Bombay their views on the proposal for a source-book on Maratha history during the 17th and 18th centuries and the possibility of obtaining pecuniary contributions towards the expenses of its publication from the University of Bombay and from the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala of Poona and other local bodies and public-spirited individuals. Should the Government of Bombay consider the proposal a likely one the Government of India might be asked to contribute to the production of the volume at Re. 1 a page.

The source-book should be in English and should contain English translation of original documents, summaries, etc.

Resolution VII, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

At the 3rd meeting of the Commission held at Bombay, His Excellency the Governor said that information about the proposed source-book on Maratha history during the 17th and 18th centuries and the possibility of obtaining pecuniary contributions towards the expenses of its publication would be furnished by the Director of Public Instruction; the Commissioners enquired how far the Bombay Government had advanced in this matter, and also suggested for the consideration of the Government of Bombay the desirability of consulting experts in Mahratta history (like Rao Bahadur D. B. Parasnis and Mr. G. S. Sardesai) as to the best method of dealing with the Peshawas' Daftar, so that a hand-list of these records might be prepared for the guidance of historical students.

Resolution II, 5th Session, 1923, Calcutta.

That the Secretary should address the Government of India asking for information on behalf of the Commission as to what action had been taken by the local Government (Bombay) regarding the proposed source-book on Maratha history and also to remind the Government of Bombay about the desirability of consulting experts like Messrs. Parasnis and Sardesai as to the best method of dealing with the Peshwas' Daftar so that handbook of these records might be prepared for the guidance of historical students.

Resolution IX, 3rd Session, 1921, Bombay.

The Commission strongly urges upon the Government of Bombay the importance of the scientific investigation of the contents of the Peshwas Daftar, Poona, and recommends that the collection should be hand-listed by competent scholars without further delay so that scientific students of Indian history during the 18th century may begin to utilise the collection without waiting for the records being calendared.

Resolution V, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

This Commission recommends to the Government of Bombay that an expert be placed on special duty to prepare a hand-list of the unsorted and unclassified *rumals* in the Poona Daftar.

Action taken.—Regarding the proposal for a source-book on Maratha history a small volume dealing with the earliest period alone was published in 1936 under the joint editorship of Professors H. G. Rawlinson and R. P. Patwardhan.

Mr. G. S. Sardesai compiled a *Handbook to the Records in the Alienation Office (Poona Daftar), Poona,* which was published in 1925.

Resolution XIII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

This Commission recommends that the Madras University should bring out a hand-list of the Mackenzie Manuscripts as early as possible.

Action taken.—A hand-list of the manuscripts is provided by H. H. Wilson's catalogue but it does not correspond to the present state of the collection. A new guide to serve this purpose has yet to be prepared.

Resolution IX, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

The Commission recommends to the Punjab Government to expedite the work of sorting and listing the Persian records in their possession by the provision of extra staff.

Action taken.—The Government of the Punjab were unable on account of financial stringency to employ the necessary staff for the work.

Resolution III, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

The Commission recommends that the Imperial Record Department and the Provincial Record Offices should issue separate catalogues of their records publications and bring them up to date from time to time. These catalogues should be circulated among the Record Offices, universities and the learned institutions.

Action taken.—National Archives of India, Bombay and Bengal agreed to print a list of their earlier records publications in their new publications.

Madras would issue a printed catalogue of their publications free of cost.

United Provinces and Orissa were not in favour of issuing catalogues as they did not possess any record office.

Punjab and Sind were considering the proposal.

Bihar Government had only two official publications and therefore were not in favour of publishing a catalogue.

Resolution I, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

(i) Records in the English Office—(*a*) The Commission would support the completion of the press-lists and continuous narratives, but strongly feels that, before this is done, a catalogue of all the available records should be framed in order to ensure that all papers were dealt with.

(iii) Persian Records Office—The Commission is very glad to see the admirable beginning which has been made by Mr. Sita Ram Kohli in dealing with the records of the reign of Ranjit Singh. There are 15 volumes of manuscript orders. It was thought that the majority of these could be preserved by proper treatment, but that wherever a volume is so decayed that it could not conveniently or safely be handled by a student, it would be well to have it copied. As the originals may be of considerable value, no pains should be spared to preserve them.

Action taken.—(i) (*a*) A pamphlet describing records available in the Punjab Civil Secretariat was printed in 1904. Therefore the Government did not consider further catalogues necessary.

(iii) Steps were being taken to prepare a catalogue of certain Persian documents in addition to the catalogue already prepared of the Khalsa Darbar records.

Indexing of Records

Resolution II, 16th Session, 1939, Calcutta.

The Commission recommends (*a*) that in the first instance indexes of the pre-Mutiny records detailed in Scheme III be prepared on the lines suggested by the Keeper of the Records of the Government of India and (*b*) that outside help be secured to expedite the work with regard to such records as may be thrown open to *bonâ fide* students of history.

Action taken.—Two volumes of *Index to the Land Revenue Records* in the custody of the National Archives of India covering the years 1830-37 and 1838-59 were published in 1940 and 1942 respectively. And one volume of Index to the late Foreign and Political Department records, 1756-80, is in Press.

Resolution VIII, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission recommends to the Government of the Central Provinces that the indexes to their records be made accessible to the public by showing or by lending them to research scholars on proper deposit, as it facilitates historical inquiries by enabling scholars to locate the exact documents which they want to consult and indicate the line for searching them by enquiries in the Record Office itself.

Resolution II, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

In view of the fact that the Madras Government has printed its records up to 1753 and has the calendaring of records from 1753-65 well in hand, besides having made still further progress with the calendaring of the Revenue records, this Commission recommends that work at Madras should continue on the present lines. With regard to the other provinces and the Government of India, as calendaring is more costly and takes longer time than indexing and indexing will serve the immediate needs of research students, this Commission recommends to the other provincial Governments and to the Government of India to arrange for the preparation of indexes of their pre-Mutiny records on

the lines of the *Index to the Land Revenue Records, 1830-37* recently issued by the Imperial Record Department which the Commission considers to be very helpful.

Resolution VII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

The Commission recommends that—

(*a*) the Governments of Bombay and Bengal be requested to expedite the work of indexing their records on the lines of the *Index to the Land Revenue Records* issued by the Imperial Record Department,

(*b*) while appreciating the preliminary steps already taken the Bihar Government be requested to expedite the projected indexing and publication work, and

(*c*) as the existing indexes to the records of the Central Provinces Government are inadequate for research purposes that Government be requested to re-index their old documents under the supervision of experts, if possible.

Action taken.—The Central Provinces and Berar Government said that their records had already been indexed. As they considered these indexes sufficient for research purposes, they were not prepared to re-index them during the pendency of the war.

Bengal proposed to prepare a consolidated index of the 18th century records department by department. Indexing of the Revenue Department records was started with the help of honorary scholars but the work has not progressed satisfactorily.

Bombay Record Office proposed to undertake indexing of records covering the period 1828-57 on completion of the work of hand-listing which was likely to be finished by 1952.

Bihar started preparation of an estimate of work to be done in indexing the pre-Mutiny records but this work was suspended for the duration of the war.

Resolution II, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

(*a*) The Commission further recommends that the work on these lines at the Imperial Records may be expedited by the provision of adequate funds for the purpose, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Indian States through the usual official channel, inviting their co-operation by starting the indexing of their historical records on similar lines.

Action taken.—Jind, Khairpur, Sirmur, and Bashahr were taking steps to index their records.

Kalsia State had already started indexing their records on the lines indicated and Tehri (Garhwal) had indexes for their records.

Resolution X, 19th Session, 1942, Trivandrum.

This Commission recommends to the Government of Madras that they be pleased to issue instructions (*a*) to the President of Madras Religious Endowments Board and (*b*) to the Dewans or other Administrative Officers in charge of principal Zamindaris in the Presidency to take early steps to preserve, classify and index all old records of historical value.

Action taken.—The trustees and executive officers in charge of temples and mutts were asked by the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board, to take steps to preserve, classify and index their records. The District Collectors have similarly issued instructions to the Zamindars or Dewans or Administrative Officers to have all records of historical value sorted, indexed and preserved carefully.

Resolution IX, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that arrangements be made for the compilation and publication of a consolidated Index to the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission, after the proceedings of the 25th session are published.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation.

Calendaring of Records

Resolution II, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

Calendaring is to be preferred to printing, only those decaying documents being printed of which no other copy exists. Decaying documents of which copies exist in the India Office should only be typed, additional staff being provided if necessary. The General Letters from July 1757 should be calendared, the letters prior to that date being calendared subsequently.

Resolution IV, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

As regards the general programme for calendaring, it was decided that it is impossible to give general directions. But it is advisable that before any local authority undertakes any work of calendaring, the proposal should be placed before the Commission for its opinion.

Resolution II, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

The Commission decided that calendaring of General Letters to and from the Court of Directors in the Imperial Record Department should begin from 1749 instead of 1757.

Action taken.—The proposal of Calendaring the General Letters was accepted by the Government of India but in 1923 it was suspended in favour of classification. In 1942, the Government accepted a scheme of publishing the General Letters *in extenso*

Resolution III, 14th Session, 1937, Lahore.

(i) The Commission recommends to the Government of India the extreme desirability of publishing systematic calendars of the Imperial records and selections from the manuscript English records from time to time relating to particular periods or topics of the East India Company's administration and that definite provision be made for these items of work being started.

(ii) The Commission suggests that assistance should be taken of research students and teachers at our universities and other scholars

in undertaking these publications with some subvention from the Government of India.

Resolution III, 15th Session, 1938, Poona.

The Commission recommends that steps be taken for the calendaring of records in record offices in British India and the Indian States (including the Imperial Record Department) where calendaring or printing *in extenso* is not being done and the Commission further recommends that the work may be speeded up by taking the help of the local university teachers and other competent scholars and suggest that handbooks of record collection (provincial and States) should be prepared where they do not exist.

Action taken.—In 1940, the Commission recommended indexing in place of calendaring which was given-up except in the case of Madras which had made some progress with its calendaring scheme. The calendaring of Persian Correspondence in the Imperial Record Department which had been started by Ross was however not disturbed.

The Punjab Government considered that calendaring of their records was unnecessary.

Resolution II, 9th Session, 1926, Lucknow.

That the Commission, in view of the changed circumstances of the last seven years modify their former decision in favour of exclusively calendaring, and recommends that the Government of Bengal resume to print the Press-lists of the proceedings of the Supreme and Intermediate Revenue Authorities on the lines on which they had been carried on in the past, in order to expedite publication.

Action taken.—The Government of Bengal resumed Press-lists of the Revenue Department records from 1778 and those of an intermediate Revenue Authority from the latter part of 1773.

Resolution V, 2nd Session, 1920, Lahore.

As proposed by Mr. Dodwell, the Madras General Letters from 1702 to 1739 should be printed instead of being calendared.

Action taken.—Brought to the notice of the local Government.

Resolution VI, 7th Session, 1925, Poona.

This Commission recommends to the Government of Bombay that a calendar of the Poona Residency records be prepared.

Resolution XVII, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Government of Bombay be requested to supply information on the following points :—

(*a*) To what extent have records in the Bombay Secretariat been calendared and press-listed?

(*b*) Whether the work of calendaring or press-listing will be proceeded with in the near future?

(*c*) Whether the publication of further selections from the Bombay records is to be undertaken?

(*d*) Whether the Government contemplate the appointment of a whole-time Curator of the Records?

(*e*) What steps will be taken for sorting and publishing press-lists of papers collected from local Kacharis?

(*f*) What rules are in force in the Bombay Presidency regarding destruction of records?

Resolution III, 11th Session, 1928, Nagpur.

The Commission has not received any intimation on points (*a*) and (*f*) of the resolution quoted above, which were communicated to the Government of Bombay, and inquire if there is any objection to addressing the local Government regarding points (*b*) to (*e*) of the resolution as the information therein asked for is necessary for the future working of the Commission

Action taken.—(*a*) No records of the Secretariat were calendared but they were press-listed from 1646 to 1760. This work was, however, been discontinued in accordance with the Government of India, Resolution No. 77-Gen., dated the 21st March, 1919.

(*f*) Two sets of rules were in force.

Miscellaneous

Resolution VIII, 4th Session, 1922, Delhi.

With regard to a proposal from Dr. Shafaat Ahmad Khan for the formation of a Historical Association it was decided that the President should address a circular letter to the various universities and learned societies drawing their attention to the proposal and suggesting that the initiative should be taken by universities on the subject and that the question of representation of historical societies on the Association should be decided after the Association had been formed.

Action taken.—The Government of India did not consider the formation of a Central Historical Association necessary. They suggested instead to the provincial Governments that they might address the Historical Societies and universities to explore the possibility of holding a conference annually or otherwise for the co-ordination of their work.

Resolution VIII, 10th Session, 1927, Rangoon.

The Commission feels that it is unable to reply to the enquiry about India's representation at the International Historical Congress at Oslo in 1928 and to make any recommendation until it is informed by the Government of India whether the expenses of the delegate will be paid by them.

Action taken.—The Government of India dropped the idea of sending representatives from India to the Historical Congress at Oslo.

Resolution XV, 13th Session. 1930, Patna.

That the note prepared by the Secretary be sent to Captain H. Bullock.

Action taken.—Apropos of a paper by Captain H. Bullock entitled "Some Openings for Army Historical Research

in India " read before the 13th session of the Commission in 1930, the Secretary of the Indian Historical Records Commission prepared a short note giving a brief description of the records relating to the Indian army in the possession of the Government of India and the Governments of Madras and Bombay down to 1859. On the approval of the Government of India a copy of the note was sent to Captain Bullock.

Resolution VII, 17th Session, 1940, Baroda.

The Commission recommends that its opinion as a body should be taken before the Government of India come to a final decision about its reorganisation.

Action taken.—The Government of India preferred instead to consult the provincial Governments, universities, learned societies and the ordinary members before the reconstitution of the Commission in 1941.

Resolution XVIII, 18th Session, 1942, Mysore.

Resolved that no action be taken.

Explanation.—This referred to a proposal by Mons. A. Lehuraux that the Commission recommends investigation of a site for determining whether it was the site of the city of Dupleix-Fathabad.

Resolution VI, 20th Session, 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that the question may be considered after the war.

Explanation.—The resolution was taken on a proposal by the Government of Mysore that lists of historical documents concerning India in the British Museum and in the India Office be obtained and circulated to the

members of the Commission and various universities of India.

Resolution VI, 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

This Commission nominated its Secretary, Dr. S. N. Sen, as its representative on the Advisory Board of Archaeology.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation and Dr. S. N. Sen, attended the first meeting of the Board held at New Delhi on 3 February, 1945.

Resolution VII, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission unanimously elects Dr. S. N. Sen on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology.

Action taken.—Reply awaited from the Government of India.

Resolution IV, 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

The Commission considers the Resolution III passed at the fourth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee and recommends that suitable amendments be made in the Government of India Resolution (Education) Department of Education, Health and Lands, No. F. 92-9/40E, dated the 16th September 1941 to enable Ceylon, Burma, Nepal and other neighbouring countries to participate in the activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission if they are so inclined

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the proposal in principle but did not consider any amendment of the constitution necessary.

Burma was requested to nominate a corresponding member on the Indian Historical Records Commission

Resolution VI, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission considers that the time is opportune for establishing cultural relations with foreign countries and recommends that the respective Government in France, United States of America, China, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Australia, South Africa, Nepal, Ceylon, Iran and Afghanistan be approached to co-operate with the activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission by nominating corresponding members.

Action taken.—Corresponding members from Portuguese India (Nova Goa), United States of America, United Kingdom, France have already been appointed for the purpose

Resolution X, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission approves of the suggestion made in Director of Archives' letter with the proviso that of the five co-opted members (answer No. 5) at least one should represent the ' user ' of archives.

Action taken.—The suggestions referred to were made by the Director of Archives, Government of India in response to a letter from Dr. Solon J. Buck, Archivist of the United States of America inviting his opinion on a proposal for the establishment of an International Archives Organisation under the auspices of the UNESCO. The Director of Archives suggested among other things, that the governing body of the proposed organisation should consist of twenty members of whom fifteen were to be elected and the rest co-opted by those elected.

The views of the Government of India were awaited.

Resolution III, 21st Session, 1944, Udaipur.

This Commission fully approves of the scheme embodied in the report on the Post-war Reorganisation of Archives Offices and Historical

Researches in India drafted by the Research and Publication Committee at its fourth meeting and recommends that the report be forwarded at an early date to the Government of India, provincial Governments and Indian States for necessary action.

Action taken.—Replies from Bengal and Madras have so far been received. Bengal proposed to consider the recommendations as part of its post-war reconstruction scheme. Madras was unable to accept most of them, *e.g.*, those relating to introduction of vacuum fumigation, lamination, air-conditioning of muniment rooms, and legislation to prohibit unwarranted destruction and export of historical manuscripts The suggestion regarding salvage of manuscripts from private custody would be considered when a permanent Regional Survey Committee was set up. Proposals to keep bundles containing records flat upon shelves and to provide additional vacuum cleaners were under consideration. Gaps in Madras records were very few and deputation of an officer to foreign countries to take microfilm copies was unnecessary. Madras archivists were trained in the Madras Record Office and it was considered superfluous to send them to National Archives for training. Madras Record Office had always made its technical servicees available to others whenever approached.

Resolution IX, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission recommends that the name of the "Imperial Record Department" be changed to that of "National Archives of India"

Action taken.—The change was effected in 1947.

Resolution VIII, 24th Session, 1948, Jaipur.

This Commission recommends that the Indian Historical Records Commission will conduct its proceedings in the language that may be officially adopted by the Government of India. Pending the decision of the Government of India on the subject the present practice should continue.

Action taken.—The Government of India have noted it.

Resolution IX, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission recommends to the Indian universities that under their schemes of popular and extension lectures, keepers and curators of records offices and scholars engaged in editing old records (Imperial provincial or States) be requested to deliver courses of lectures in different provincial centres on the nature and subject matter of the records that they have examined and edited.

Action taken.—Patna, Nagpur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Osmania and Punjab universities agreed to act according to the spirit of the resolution whenever opportunity occurred.

Resolution VII, 22nd Session, 1945, Peshawar.

This Commission requests the provincial Governments and Indian States to furnish the Imperial Record Department with a list of different series of records in their possession showing the gaps or wanting papers in such series.

Action taken.—Bharatpur, Aundh, Bonai, Bijawar, Datia, Daspalla, Keonjhar, Narsingpur, Mayurbhanj, Athgarh Tigiria, Limbdi, Rajpipla and Bamra States informed that they did not possess any records of historical value.

Sawantwadi, Patna, Kharaswan and Bastar Darbars did not supply any information.

Wadhawan, Rajgarh, Kalahandi, Barambar, Coorg, Patiala, Jhalawar, Cochin and Baroda supplied some information about their records.

Baluchistan and Mysore said that they did not maintain any list of records.

Kotah was preparing a list of their records.

Resolution V, 23rd Session, 1946, Indore.

This Commission recommends that the Research and Publication Committee should function independently of the Indian Historical Records Commission and the Government of India should treat the minutes of proceedings of its meetings as final. The Committee however reserved the right to refer to the Indian Historical Records Commission any matter that it may consider necessary.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the resolution but reserved the right to refer any matter in their discretion to the Indian Historical Records Commission.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

1942—1948

Regional Survey of Records.

Resolution IV, 1st Session, January 1942, Aligarh.

Resolved that the Government of India request the provincial Governments and the Indian States:

(*a*) to set up local committees in consultation with the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Commission in their areas to conduct regional surveys with a view to bringing to light records in private custody and providing for their preservation and publication,

(*b*) the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Indian Historical Records Commission in their areas should be the foundation members of such committees in their respective localities ordinarily residing within their jurisdiction, and

(*c*) pending the appointment of the suggested committees the ordinary, associate and corresponding members of the Commission should be accorded necessary facilities by the local authorities for carrying on the regional surveys.

Action taken.—Punjab set up a Regional Committee in April 1942. But most of the provinces and States did not take any steps to set up such committees as envisaged in (*a*). Most of them were, however, willing to afford all facilities to the members of the Commission for carrying on regional surveys.

Resolution V, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Commission recommends that *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committees consisting of all grades of members of the Commission residing in the area concerned be set up in the provinces with powers to co-opt and that the provincial Governments, Indian States and universities be

requested to grant them such facilities in the shape of leave, access to archives, official recognition, etc., as may facilitate the object which these Committees have in view. Such Indian States as may desire to act on these lines may set up similar Committees. The following gentlemen may kindly act as conveners of the *ad hoc* Committees in the provinces mentioned against their names.

Madras	Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari.
Bombay and Sind . .	Professor D. V. Potdar.
Bengal and Assam . .	Dr. R. C. Majumdar.
U.P.	Dr. Tara Chand.
Bihar	Dr. K. K. Datta.
C.P. and Berar . .	Mr. Y. K. Deshpande.
Orissa and Eastern States Agency . .	Mr. G. S. Dass.
N.-W.F.P. . . .	Mr. S. M. Jaffar.
Delhi	Dr. S. N. Sen.

Action taken.—*Ad hoc* Committees were formed in all the provinces named above. Pudukkottai, Bamra, Baroda, Kolhapur, Kalahandi, Kapurthala, Suket, Travancore, Patna, Alwar, Banswara and Jodhpur, formed Regional Survey Committees and the Governments of these places agreed to extend all facilities to the Committees.

Resolution III, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee notes the action taken by the Punjab Government and trusts that facilities will be provided to expedite the survey of objects of historical interest in the province.

Explanation.—The Punjab Government set up a Regional Survey Committee in April 1942 and this Committee proposed to divide the province into four zones.

The Punjab Government informed that they were affording all facilities to the Punjab Regional Committee.

Resolution IV, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee recommends that when the Regional Committee is appointed by the Government of Madras the controlling officers of the Ecclesiastical, Devasthanam or Muzrai departments and Bishops or priests attached to important cathedrals not belonging to the Established Church of England should be included in its personnel.

Action taken.—The Madras Government informed that the recommendation would be considered at the time of the setting up of the Regional Committee after the war.

Representatives of religious endowment boards were included in the *ad hoc* Committee formed by Professor Srinivasachari.

Resolution V, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee recommends that Mr. P. C. Rath should communicate with the Resident concerned.

Explanation.—This resolution was in respect of a proposal by Mr. P. C. Rath that the States of Patna, Sonpur, Bamra, Kalahandi and Gangpur and contiguous parts of the British districts should form one unit for the purpose of regional survey. The resolution was forwarded to the Resident, Eastern States Agency.

Resolution VII, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee recommends that the Regional Survey Committees in addition to their usual activities should during the pendency of war explore ways and means to prevent the unwarranted destruction of papers of historical importance in the process of paper salvage. The provincial Governments and the Governments of Indian States may be requested to afford all facilities in the work of the Committees.

Action taken.—The Punjab Government informed that no old record could be destroyed there without a reference to the Keeper of the Records.

The Cochin, Mayurbhanj and Pudukkottai Durbars informed that no record of historical importance was destroyed in those areas.

Resolution VI, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that the report of Regional Committees be published in the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation and these reports have since been regularly printed.

Resolution I, 4th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

(*a*) This Committee requests the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission to frame a set of general instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees and these be communicated to the provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and institutions and the Records Offices in the provinces and States.

(*b*) Steps should be taken for securing permission from the Portuguese and Free French Governments in India for the Regional Survey Committees to extend their activities to the districts under their respective jurisdiction.

Action taken.—(*a*) A set of general instructions (*vide* Appendix E, Volume XXI of Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings) was drawn up and circulated.

(*b*) The French Government in India gave the desired permission. The Portuguese Government were prepared to supply any specific information that might be asked for.

Resolution III, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the Secretary should supply to individual conveners with a specified number of copies of instruction when necessary.

Action taken.—The "General Instructions for the guidance of the Regional Survey Committees" were printed and copies supplied to the Committees in the provinces and States.

Resolution IV, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that as at present the *ad hoc* committees should be formed by the conveners and additional members should be co-opted by the respective committees.

Action taken.—Decision communicated to the Regional Survey Committees.

Resolution V, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that co-opted members should be appointed for a term of three years in the first instance.

Action taken.—The decision was communicated to the Regional Survey Committees.

Resolution VI, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the conveners should communicate their minimum financial needs to meet their office expenses to the Secretary to enable the Chairman to move the Government of India in the matter.

Action taken.—Estimates were received from all the *ad hoc* Committees excepting the Punjab which had a permanent Committee. The Government of India sanctioned a grant of Rs. 6,500 for the 9 *ad hoc*

Committees for 1946-47. The Government of India authorised the Secretary of the Commission to make payments in future years also. The grant was increased to Rs. 15,000 for 1947-48.

Resolution VII, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that in view of the Sind Government's nomination of a representative in the Indian Historical Records Commission, they may be requested to appoint a Regional Survey Committee in their province. If, however, it is not possible for the Sind Government to do so during the pendency of war, an *ad hoc* Committee may be set up by Dr. A. L. Duarte as convener.

Action taken.—The Sind Government did not consider it necessary to appoint either a Regional Survey Committee or an *ad hoc* Committee.

Resolution XII, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee does not recommend any action for the present

Explanation.—This referred to a proposal that the Commission should undertake a survey of historical documents in private custody, commencing work in the Delhi province to begin with. Preliminary work had, however, already been commenced at Delhi and other places in conformity with Resolution V of the 3rd meeting (1943).

Resolution XIII, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the attention of the universities and learned societies be drawn to the necessity of publishing such notes as the Regional Survey Committees may prepare.

Action taken.—The Patna, Nagpur and Andhra Universities informed that they would publish such notes in their respective journals.

Resolution XIV, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the names of such private owners of valuable historical records who may co-operate with Regional Committees be published in India and provincial Gazettes if they have no objection.

Action taken.—The Government of India did not favour the idea of publishing the names in the official Gazettes. They suggested issue of a press communiqué, when important discoveries were made.

Resolution VII, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

This Committee recommends that *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee for Madras Presidency may nominate Sub-Committees of scholars who will pay periodical visits to temples and *maths* and other religious institutions with a view to examine, classify and index the old and historical records in the custody of the religious institutions.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India for necessary action.

Resolution IV, 8th Session, March 1946, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Regional Survey Committees be directed to encourage the examination of old Historical Records, whether in private or official custody, and the local Governments be requested to give all facilities to the Committee to fulfil this duty.

Explanation.—The resolution was considered necessary in view of certain difficulties which the Committees experienced in some places.

Resolution V, 8th Session, March 1946, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Regional Survey Committee in the provinces and States be given facilities to carry on their work in and to have easy access to the adjoining places and to take impressions,

photos, etc., wherever necessary. The members of the Survey Committee be given facilities to utilise Dak-Bungalows and to secure provisions and transport at reasonable costs.

Action taken.—The late Punjab and Bombay Governments informed that they were giving the facilities asked for.

Resolution VI, 8th Session, March 1946, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Government of India be requested to ask the provincial Governments and Indian States to set up permanent Regional Survey Committees in view of the altered position consequent on the cessation of hostilities

Action taken.—C. P. agreed to set up a Committee.

Resolution VI, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

This Committee recommends that the provincial Governments should be requested to publish the list of members of the Provincial and *ad hoc* Regional Survey Committee in the provincial Gazette for public information.

Action taken.—The Governments of Central Provinces and Bombay agreed.

Resolution IV, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee views with grave concern the extremely unsatisfactory state in which the bulk of the records and historical manuscripts in India are lying, and the risks of destruction and dispersal to which they are exposed due mainly to the ignorance on the part of the public of their value as evidences for history and is firmly convinced that the major portion of these invaluable treasures will be lost to the nation unless adequate steps are immediately taken for their preservation. The Committee believes that many of these risks can be eliminated by (1) the enactment of a comprehensive public records legislation for the preservation of all records of national value; (2) by the establishment of

properly organised and staffed repositories all over the country to house records which still require a suitable shelter, and education of their present custodians and owners in the principles of archives-keeping; (3) making provision for technical services (such as repair, photographing, indexing, cataloguing, etc.) in such repositories as may be unable to organise these services for themselves; (4) organisation of research facilities at these repositories for approved students; and (5) establishment of a system of control on the administration of these records by a suitable central organisation. The Committee further believes that as a preliminary step to the above it will be necessary to compile a register containing complete information regarding all records in India whether in public, semi-public, private or institutional custody. It therefore makes the following recommendations :—

(i) that the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee be entrusted with the compilation of such a register, to be called the National Register of records and historical manuscripts, with the help of the Regional Survey Committees in the provinces and the States;

(ii) that the latter bodies be instructed to concentrate on the work of the compilation of the materials for the register to the exclusion of all other items of work they may have taken up or intend to take up in the near future;

(iii) that information collected be entered in the *pro formâ* approved by this Committee (annexed hereto) a separate form being used for each collection, series, group or 'fonds' of records or historical manuscripts surveyed, that the completed forms be forwarded to the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee for consolidation with similar forms received from elsewhere, copies being retained by the Regional Committees in the form of a register for a reference purpose, with up-to-date indexes, duplicates of which should be furnished to the Secretary of the Committee, and that the Registers whether at the Centre or in the provinces be made available to accredited scholars;

(iv) that the provincial Governments and the States, and through them the authorities of the Divisions, Districts, Sub-divisions,

Circles and other administrative units, High Courts and other Courts, Corporations, Municipalities, Districts and Local Boards, Trusts, Councils and similar organisations set up by the provincial or State Governments or under their auspices, learned societies, universities, educational institutions, religious establishments, libraries, museums and all public and semi-public institutions situated within the territorial limits of the provinces and the States, be asked to co-operate fully with the Regional Committees in compiling the register by extending to them financial help, and according them unrestricted facilities for inspection of the records under their control;

(v) the Regional Survey Committees be further asked to exclude from their immediate programme the contents of the Organised Records Offices and concentrate on such records in semi-public, institutional and private custody and such public records as are yet to be organised;

(vi) that the provincial Governments and the States having organised record offices of their own be asked to furnish the requisite information in respect of their collections direct to the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee, in the approved form, copies being sent to the Regional Survey Committees functioning in the provinces or the States as the case may be;

(vii) that the Government of India afford such financial and other facilities to the Secretary, Research and Publication Committee (in printing instruction sheets, relevant *pro formâs*, and any other matter) that may be considered to be necessary in connection with the compilation of the Register;

(viii) that to accord this scheme the widest possible publicity the resolution be published in the *Gazette of India*, the Press Information Bureau be asked to issue a press note on the subject for publication in the leading newspapers and periodicals and that All-India Radio be asked to arrange for a series of education talks explaining the implications of the project. The Committee hereby authorises its Secretary to issue directives for the guidance of the

Regional Survey Committees and to ask for annual reports of the work done in this connection.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the provincial Governments and States for necessary action.

Regarding (vii), the Government of India asked for and was supplied with full financial implications of the proposals. Regarding (viii), publicity through press and radio has already been undertaken by the Press Information Bureau and the All-India Radio.

Resolution VII, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Director of Archives, Government of India, be authorised to give at his discretion transcribed copies of documents in the custody of the Government of India, free of charge, to those who help the Regional Survey Committees in their quest for historical records, if such transcripts are wanted for local or family history.

Action taken.—Reply of the Government of India awaited.

Resolution VIII, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee further recommends that the provincial and States Governments be requested to give on the basis of the recommendations of the Regional Survey Committees in their areas, free transcripts of records in their custody to those who may help the Survey Committees in their quest for historical records, if such transcripts are wanted for local or family history.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Governments concerned.

Resolution IX, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the name of the "Regional Survey Committee" be changed to "Regional Records Survey Committee".

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the change in nomenclature and the decision has been communicated to all the Regional Survey Committees.

Resolution IV, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

The Committee recommends that all the Regional Survey Committees be requested to submit a five-year programme of work with estimates of probable expenditure not later than the end of May 1948 before the Sub-Committee consisting of the five expert members nominated by the Government of India for co-ordination and recommendation to the Research and Publication Committee.

Resolution V, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

This Committee approves of the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Government of India to formulate a five-year plan of work for survey of historical documents in the country and urges upon the Government of India to give effect to this recommendation as soon as possible.

Action taken.—The programmes as well as the estimates were received from all the provincial Survey Committees and the Sub-Committee met in Delhi in July 1948, and submitted a report to the 12th meeting of the Research and Publication Committee. The report was then forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution V, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

It is agreed that the Regional Survey Committees should submit half-yearly accounts to the Secretary of the Commission duly filled in a form to be supplied to them.

Action taken.—Necessary forms were supplied.

Resolution VI, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee recommends that the membership and scope of activities of the West Bengal Regional Survey Committee be restricted to that part of Bengal which is within the Dominion of India.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution VII, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

The Government of Assam be requested to set up a Regional Survey Committee, pending which the Committee for West Bengal may continue to function for Assam also.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution IX, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee also recommends that a directive be given to the Government of West Bengal by the Government of Indian Union that the local Regional Survey Committee be consulted before any decision is arrived at regarding division of local official records between West Bengal and Eastern Pakistan.

Action taken.—Reply from the West Bengal Government is awaited.

Resolution XI, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

That the Government of India be moved to make an initial grant of Rs. 25,000 to be distributed among the Regional Survey Committees for collection of materials relating to the proposed compilation of an authoritative history of the Indian national struggle.

Action taken.—Decision of the Government of India is awaited

Resolution XIV, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee recommends that a short account of the important activities of each Regional Survey Committee be published in the form of annual reports, so that the important documents brought to light by them might be available to all students of history and an impetus be given to the local public for helping the Regional Committee to discover more such documents.

Action taken.—Resolution forwarded to all the provincial Committees by the Secretary of the Commission.

Publication of Historical Documents

Resolution I, 1st Session, January 1942, Mysore.

It was unanimously resolved that the five-year publication programme of the Imperial Record Department be approved.

Action taken.—The scheme was accepted by the Government of India.

Resolution II, 1st Session, January 1942, Mysore.

Resolved that the Government of India be requested to send a communication to the provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and learned societies that scholars in their employment should be allowed all facilities in the shape of travelling expenses and leave to enable them to participate in the publication scheme of the Imperial Record Department.

Action taken.—For action taken *see* under "Publication of Records" (Resolution III of the 18th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission).

Resolution III, 1st Session, January 1942, Mysore.

(*a*) Resolved that a copy of this programme be forwarded to the provincial Governments and Indian States with a request that they should also arrange for the publication of records in their custody on similar lines as far as practicable. The Commission is aware that the Government of Madras have their own publication scheme.

(*b*) Resolved that a copy of this resolution may be forwarded to the Governments of Free French and Portuguese India also.

Action taken.—For action taken *see* under "Publication of Records" (Resolution IV of the 18th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission).

Resolution III, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

(*a*) This Committee approves of the details of the Five-year Publication Programme and recommends that publications under Scheme III (*a*)

should have indexes both in English and in the language of the documents and the summaries published should be as full as possible

(b) This Committee reiterates Resolution III of the eighteenth session and requests the Government of India to impress upon the provincial Governments, Indian States and universities the need of co-operating with the Imperial Record Department with a view to ensuring the success of the scheme.

(c) This Committee further recommends that the Government of India be moved to grant the travelling allowances to the editors selected for the first six volumes under Scheme I of the Programme.

Action taken.—(a) Agreed to by the Government of India.

(b) *See* under "Publication of Records" (Resolution III of the 18th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission).

(c) The recommendation was not acceptable to the Government.

Resolution III, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that the Delhi University be requested to take up the publication of the Persian Akhbars edited by Dr. I. H. Qureshi under Scheme III of the Five-year Publication Programme.

Action taken.—The Government of India decided not to approach the University so long as the paper scarcity lasted.

Resolution XI, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that a fresh publication programme may be undertaken when the present scheme is successfully implemented.

Resolution II, 6th Session, March 1945, New Delhi.

Resolved that a sub-committee consisting of Professor D. V. Potdar, Professor C. S. Srinivasachari, Dr. H. N. Sinha, Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad, Mr. R. K. Ranadive and Dr. S. N. Sen be appointed to

examine and report on the Twenty-year Publication Programme. The report of the Sub-Committee is to be placed before the Peshawar Session of the Research and Publication Committee.

Action taken.—A tentative twenty-year plan had been drawn up in compliance with Resolution XI of the 5th Session of the Research and Publication Committee. The Sub-Committee submitted a report (Appendix A.—Vol. XXII—Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings).

Resolution V, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

Resolved that the Twenty-year Publication Programme for the Imperial Record Department be approved.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the proposal but stipulated that it should be taken up only when the Five-year Publication Programme was fully implemented.

Resolution II, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee recommends that the Government of India make suitable provision for special types of printing and take such prompt measures as are required in connection with the Five-year Publication Programme of the National Archives of India. Meanwhile the Secretary may be authorised to get the completed works printed through some private presses.

Action taken.—Thevenot and Careri's Indian Travels and Volume V of the Fort William—India House Correspondence were sent to private presses.

Resolution II, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that Prof. Mohammed Habib, Dr. T. G. P. Spear, Mr. R. P. Patwardhan and Dr. B. A. Saletore

be appointed Honorary Editors for Volumes VII, VIII, IX and X of Fort William—East India House Correspondence to be published under Scheme I of the Five-year Publication Programme.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India.

Resolution IV, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that two volumes of Hindi records may be published under Scheme III (*a*) of the Five-year Programme under the joint auspices of the Allahabad University and the Kotah Durbar. Scholars appointed by the University and the Durbar should jointly edit both the volumes and the expenses of publication should be shared by the University and the Kotah Durbar.

Action taken.—Editing of the two volumes has been taken up by the Allahabad University and the Kotah Durbar.

Resolution II, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the following gentlemen may be appointed to edit the next four volumes under Scheme I of the Five-year Publication Programme.

(1) Mr. S. V. Puntambekar, M.A. (Oxon.), Benares.
(2) Mr. J. C. Taluqdar, M.A., Agra.
(3) Mr. H. K. Sherwani, M.A. (Oxon.), Bar-at-Law, Hyderabad, Deccan.
(4) Dr. Nandalal Chatterjee, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., Lucknow.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India. Numbers 1, 3 and 4 since intimated their inability to edit the volumes entrusted to them. Drs. I. B. Banerjee, S. N. Das Gupta and P. C. Gupta were appointed to edit Volumes XI, XII and XIII respectively.

Resolution I, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

Resolved that the action taken be approved.

Explanation.—The action referred to was the handing over of the typescripts of the volume of court letters allotted to Dr. N. L. Chatterjee who was indisposed to Professor J. D. Ward of Lahore. Professor Ward has since returned the typescripts.

Resolution III, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

Resolved that the following persons be appointed to edit the next four volumes of the East India House Correspondence :—

(1) Rev. Father H. Heras, S.J., M.A.. Bombay.

(2) Mr. Y. J. Taraporewala, M.A., Muzaffarpur.

(3) Khan Sahib S. H. Askari, M.A., B.L., Patna.

(4) Dr. A. G. Pawar, M.A., LL.B., Ph.D., Bar-at-Law., Kolhapur.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India.

Resolution IV, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

Resolved that the Secretary be requested to write to appropriate institutions and authorities for undertaking items 2, 3 and 4.

Action taken.—The items referred to were (2) Cornwallis Correspondence on Sindhia's Affairs (1786-93), (3) Elphinstone Correspondence (Nagpur period) and (4) News Letters (1839-42) under Scheme III (*b*) of the Five-year Publication Programme. Item No. 3 has been taken up by the Nagpur University Historical Society.

Resolution II, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

(*a*) This Committee recommends that the following gentlemen be appointed to edit the last 3 volumes under Scheme I of the Five-year Publication Programme :—

(1) Brigadier H. Bullock, O.B.E., Simla.

(2) Principal Sita Ram Kohli, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., Jind State.

(3) Dr. Yusuf Husain Khan, D.Litt. (Paris), Hyderabad, Deccan.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India. Subsequently Dr. A. C. Banerjee was selected in place of Dr. Y. H. Khan.

Resolution II, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

(*b*) The Committee further recommends that the following gentlemen be appointed to edit the volumes returned by two editors previously appointed :—

(1) Dr. S. N. Das Gupta, M.A., D.Litt., Lucknow.

(2) Dr. Indu Bhusan Banerjee, M.A., Ph.D., Calcutta.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India. Professor S. V. Puntambekar and J. D. Ward returned the typescripts of Volumes XI and XII which had earlier been allotted to them. Volume XI was entrusted to Dr. Banerjee and Volume XII to Dr. Das Gupta.

Resolution X, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that Dr. P. C. Gupta be appointed an Honorary Editor in place of Prof. S. V. Puntambekar to edit one of the volumes under the Five-year Publication Programme.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India. The typescript of Volume XIII was handed over to Dr. P. C. Gupta.

Resolution III, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee approves the appointment of Dr. A. C. Banerjee as an Honorary Editor under the Five-year Publication Programme.

Action taken.—Accepted by the Government of India. Dr. Banerjee has been appointed editor of Volume XX.

Facilities for Research

Resolution II, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee recommends that the questionnaire be circulated to the provincial and States Governments.

Explanation.—The questionnaire was designed to elicit information as to the existing facilities for research in the provinces and States. It was circulated and a number of replies were received (*vide* Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXI, Appendix C).

Resolution X, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee recommends that the Secretary should be authorised (i) to give necessary publicity to the answers already received, (ii) to work as the agent of the Commission in a general way and to persuade the provinces and States to take such steps as may improve the prevailing archives arrangement if it is not quite up to date and (iii) to report to the Commission such fresh action as the provinces and States may take from time to time.

Explanation.—The resolution was forwarded by the Government of India to all the provincial and States Governments and almost all of them, with the exception of Madras, accepted the recommendations. The Madras Government held that the Secretary of the Commission as such could not be invested with such wide powers as the resolution envisages. They were however prepared to extend all possible facilities to the Director of Archives for inspecting the Central Government records in their custody.

Resolution IX, 3rd Session, December 1943, New Delhi.

This Committee is of opinion that these proposals are outside the scope of the Research and Publication Committee and the Commission.

Explanation.—There were two proposals recommending research on overseas economic, political and cultural connections of India between 15th and 20th centuries and on the inter-influence in various spheres between modern India and the other countries of the world.

Resolution II, 4th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the attention of Mr. S. N. Banerji be invited to the Imperial Record Department Historical Research Rules.

Explanation.—Sardar Banerji proposed that the States should be permitted to examine and transcribe such documents available in the Imperial Record Department as might throw light on their past history.

Resolution VI, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

Resolved that this Committee requests the Commission to move the provincial Governments and the Indian States to take up now the various items of work recommended by the Commission which they approved but kept in abeyance on account of the war emergency.

Action taken.—The resolution was forwarded to all the provincial Governments. The Punjab Government in their reply detailed the work they were doing and proposed to do.

Resolution III, 8th Session, March 1946, New Delhi.

Resolved that now that normal conditions have been restored the provincial Governments be requested to grant all reasonable facilities to *bonâ fide* research scholars for their work among official records in provincial custody.

Action taken.—The resolution was forwarded to all the provincial Governments. The Bombay Government informed that all reasonable facilities would be given.

Resolution III, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

This Committee recommends that the records of the Government of India and the provincial Governments prior to 1901 be thrown open to *bonâ fide* research students and that the Governments concerned may be moved to transfer all records up to 1901 to the custody of the record offices under them.

Resolution XIII, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

The pre-1902 confidential records, central and provincial, both military and civil, be thrown open to *bonâ fide* students of Indian history under such conditions as the respective Governments may consider necessary.

Action taken.—This resolution together with Resolution III of the 9th meeting was forwarded to all the provincial Governments and States for necessary action.

As for the Central Government records, the Government of India have accepted the resolution subject to the condition that excerpts from the records of the Ministry of States should be submitted to that Ministry for scrutiny before release

Resolution V, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Portuguese and French Governments in India be requested to give facilities to accredited students from British India and Indian States to do research among their records. They may be further requested to co-operate with the Indian Historical Records Commission in enabling the latter to obtain copies of their records with a view to their publication.

Action taken.—Forwarded by the Government of India to the respective Governments.

Resolution VI, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Government of India may forward the proposal in the amended form to all the universities in

India with a request to furnish the Imperial Record Department by 1st of September every year with the desired information for publication in the Indian Archives.

Action taken.—The universities were asked to supply information regarding research being done by the members of the staff. The Madras University replied that no research work on Modern Indian History was being done there. Replies from the other universities are awaited.

Resolution IV, 6th Session, March 1945, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Government of India should approach the Government of Ceylon with a view to securing transcripts of records relating to India in their possession.

Action taken.—The Government of Ceylon was addressed.

Resolution V, 6th Session, March 1945, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Government of India be requested to complete the series in the Imperial Record Department Library by securing the necessary volumes from London as soon as possible.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation and informed that the question of obtaining copies of Parliamentary Papers from London would be taken after the war.

Publication of Records

Resolution VII, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that a Sub-Committee consisting of Dr. S. N. Sen, Professor D. V. Potdar and Mr. S. L. Vaidya with power to co-opt be appointed to estimate the cost of calendaring the valuable Marathi records in the possession of Mr. S. L. Vaidya.

Resolution VIII, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

Resolved that the Report be recorded.

Action taken.—The Vaidya Letters—some 1,000 in number—were discovered in 1942 at Poona in the daftar of Balambhat and Vishwanthbhat, advisers to Sahu Maharaj. The Sub-Committee inspected the records and submitted a report (*vide* Appendix A, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings —Volume XXI).

Resolution III, 6th Session, March 1945, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Government of India should be requested to make 111½ reams of printing paper available to the Imperial Record Department so that the publication of the proposed Journal and 500 copies each of the next two volumes of the Calendar of Persian Correspondence, the first volume of the Index to the Records of the late Foreign and Political Department and some of the volumes under the five-year programme may be taken up without further delay.

Action taken.—80 reams of paper (27½″ × 40½″) were reserved by the Government of India for the Imperial Record Department in May 1946.

Resolution II, 7th Session, October 1945, Peshawar.

This Committee recommends to the Government of India to use paper of the best quality procurable for the publications planned by the

Committee and to make paper of the same quality available to other institutions undertaking the same work.

Action taken.—The Government of India informed that paper of good quality would be made available for Government publications planned by the Committee. As regards publications undertaken by the learned institutions, the provincial Governments and Indian States were being asked to provide them with necessary assistance in the procurement of paper of good quality.

Resolution V, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

This Committee recommends that all future publications of the Government of India be printed in sufficient number (at least 500) so as to meet possible demands for a period of 20 to 30 years.

Action taken.—Reply from the Government of India is awaited.

Preservation of Records

Resolution VI, 2nd Session, December 1942, Trivandrum.

This Committee requests the Deputy Commissioner, Bilaspur, not to destroy the records in question before they have been examined by the Mahakoshal Research Society.

Explanation.—The records referred to were 25 bastas of documents in Marathi, Hindi, Oriya and Modi scripts. The Government of the Central Provinces informed that those bastas had been destroyed in 1939 with the exception of some records, the retention of which was recommended by the Mahakoshal Historical Society. The Provincial Government had no objection to the available records being examined and published with their previous approval.

Resolution VIII, 3rd Session, December 1943, Aligarh.

This Committee recommends that Professor Potdar's note and Dr. B. S. Baliga and Dr. Shankaran's observations be forwarded to the Government of Madras for their information and such action as they may deem necessary.

Explanation.—Professor D. V. Potdar submitted a note pointing out the necessity of attending to the Mackenzie manuscripts ; Dr. Baliga's and Dr. Shankaran's observations were on this note.

The Government of Madras informed that all possible steps were being taken for the proper preservation of the Mackenzie manuscripts in the Oriental Manuscripts Library.

Resolution XII, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

That the Government of India and the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Committee be requested to transfer all the original writings of Mahatma

Gandhi and records relating to him to the custody of the National Archives of India for preservation.

Action taken.—The Resolution together with Resolution II of the Indian Historical Records Commission has been forwarded to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Committee, New Delhi, by the Government of India.

Resolution IV, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

Resolved that the Government of India be now pleased to undertake suitable legislation for preventing unwarranted destruction and export of historical documents and manuscripts from India, as recommended in the post-war reconstruction scheme approved by the Indian Historical Records Commission at its Udaipur Session.

Action taken.—*In this connection see* also Resolution IX of the 24th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. The question is under active consideration of the Government of India.

Resolution VII, 9th Session, December 1946, Indore.

(*a*) This Committee appreciates the services of the Collector of Tanjore, Mr. T. S. Ramchandran, Mr. K. R. Srinivasan and Honorary Secretary, Tanjore Saraswati Mahal Library, in rescuing the Tanjore records from destruction and conveys its thanks to those gentlemen.

(*b*) The Committee also recommends that these records should be moved to the custody of the Tanjore Saraswati Mahal Library.

(*c*) The Committee further recommends that an adequate grant be made for indexing and cataloguing these records and that the Madras Government consider the matter sympathetically.

Explanation.—A considerable collection of valuable manuscript records in Marathi (Modi), Telegu and Tamil scripts housed in the Tanjore Palace was proposed

to be destroyed by the authorities but timely action was taken to prevent destruction of the records. The resolution was forwarded by the Government of India to the Madras Government. His Excellency the Crown Representative by a General Order authorised the Curator, Madras Record Office, to assess the value of the records and employ necessary staff for the purpose, the expenses in this connection being made a charge on the Central revenues.

Information Regarding Records

Resolution IX, 5th Session, December 1944, Udaipur.

This Committee records its appreciation of the co-operation of the Residents and Political Agents in supplying the information regarding defunct Residencies.

Explanation.—The information was supplied in response to a desire expressed by the Local Records Sub-Committee in its 8th meeting for a detailed Report on the Defunct Residency Records (*vide* Appendix B, Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXI).

Resolution II, 10th Session, March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that—

(1) the Government of India may kindly issue directives to all the existing Departments (Secretariat, Attached and Subordinate) under them to (*a*) submit to the Director of Archives within one year a report on the history of their growth and present organisation; (*b*) keep the Imperial Record Department informed of all subsequent changes as and when introduced; (*c*) submit to the Director of Archives a list of all defunct departments whose functions they may have inherited at one time or another.

(2) His Excellency the Crown Representative be also requested to issue similar directive to the Agencies under his control.

Action taken.—Forwarded to all the Ministries and their attached and subordinate offices. Replies from some of the offices have been received.

Resolution III, 10th Session. March 1947, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the questionnaire framed at the instance of the Local Records Sub-Committee (Twelfth Meeting) be

circulated to all Government of India Departments and His Excellency the Crown Representative except questions Nos. 22 and 23 with a request to furnish the Director of Archives with the information asked for within six months from the date of receipt.

Action taken.—The questionnaire was prepared to elicit information regarding those offices of the Government of India which do not transfer their records to the National Archives of India.

It was circulated to the various Ministries and the attached and subordinate offices and some replies have been received.

Division and Centralisation of Records, Foreign Relations, etc.

Resolution VIII, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee recommends to the Government of India that it is not in the interest of historical research to divide important series of records between two States in consequence of the partition. In any case, care should be taken that the integrity of the series remains intact. Should one of the Dominions stand in need of any records in the custody of the other, microfilm copies of the original should be supplied and all facilities should be given to *bonâ fide* scholars from either Dominion.

Action taken.—The decision of the Government of India is awaited.

Resolution IV, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

Resolved that the provincial Governments be requested to follow the international practice in the appropriation by or allotment of records to seceding territories.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution III, 4th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that in view of the intimate cultural and historical relation with Ceylon, Burma and other neighbouring countries, arrangements should be made to make suitable provisions in the new constitution of the Indian Historical Records Commission to enable such of these countries as may be willing to participate in the activities of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Action taken.—*See* also Resolution VI of 23rd Session of Indian Historical Records Commission Corresponding members have already been appointed from U.S.A. and France. The question of appointment of members from other countries is under active consideration of the countries concerned.

Resolution X, 11th Session, February 1948, Jaipur.

This Committee recommends that an attempt be made to compile a list of important records, both published and unpublished, bearing upon the national struggle for freedom.

Action taken.—The Government of India's decision is awaited.

Resolution I, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Local Records Sub-Committee be reconstituted as follows : (1) Educational Adviser to the Government of India, *ex-officio* Chairman, (2) A nominee of the Ministry of Home Affairs (preferably a Deputy Secretary of that Ministry), (3) A member co-opted by the Chairman for one year, (4) Director of Archives, Government of India, *ex-officio* Secretary, and if a member was available at Delhi for the entire period of three years for which the Sub-Committee is ordinarily appointed, he may be co-opted.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution VI, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that the Historical Section of the Defence Ministry may be represented on the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution VI, 6th Session, March 1945, New Delhi.

This Committee lends its whole-hearted support to the proposals of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal in general and to that relating to the establishment of a Central Record Office at Calcutta in particular and commends them to the authorities concerned.

Action taken.—The Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal forwarded certain proposals for the cultural reconstruction in India. The Government of India accepted most of the proposals in principle.

Resolution II, 8th Session, March 1946, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that a Sub-Committee be set up with Sir John Sàrgent as the Chairman and Dr. R. C. Majumdar, Professor D. V. Potdar, Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachari, Dr. Yusuf Husain Khan and Dr. S. N. Sen as members to consider the resolutions tabled by Dr. Majumdar and Dr. Saletore. The Sub-Committee should take into consideration the financial, administrative and legal implications of the resolutions.

Explanation.—Dr. Majumdar's proposal was that all the pre-Mutiny records in the custody of the Local Governments be placed in charge of the Imperial Record Department and be made a central subject for the purpose of administration. Dr. Saletore suggested that steps should be taken to secure a Royal Charter for the Indian Historical Records Commission.

The matter was placed before the 23rd Session of the Commission at Indore. A fresh sub-committee was recommended (*vide* Resolution IV). The Government of India appointed a Sub-Committee in June 1948 which submitted a report.

Resolution II, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

This Committee fully endorses the resolution of the Sub-Committee on the conservation of records under a unified Central control and recommends to the Government of India that suitable action be taken as soon as possible.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

Resolution III, 12th Session, July 1948, New Delhi.

This Committee recommends that all the non-current District, Divisional and Sub-Divisional records should be centralised at the provincial headquarters under a unified control directly under the

provincial Governments for better preservation and historical research. It is further recommended that an annual report on the progress achieved in this respect may be submitted to the Indian Historical Records Commission for information.

Action taken.—Forwarded to the Government of India.

RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LOCAL RECORDS SUB-COMMITTEE
1939—1948
Preservation of Archives

Resolution II, 3rd Session, November 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that further details on the possibility of manufacturing in India (i) Hydraulic Press for laminating documents with cellulose acetate foil, (ii) Vacuum Fumigatorium for regular treatment of records against insect ravages be collected.

Resolution V, 4th Session, March 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that reading from the hygrographs be taken about the relative humidity and temperature in the record rooms for another year.

Resolution V, 5th Session, December 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the proposal relating to the equipment of Analytical Ultra-Violet Lamp and Fumigation Chamber for the Preservation Section be recommended for favourable consideration of the Government of India.

Resolution I, 8th Session, April 1943, New Delhi.

(*a*) Resolved that a 35 mm. Film-a-record machine (230 volts D.C.) at Rs. 9,000 should be obtained as early as possible and since a provision of Rs. 7,000 only has been made in the budget of the Imperial Record Department, that Department should try to meet the extra expenditure from its own budget for 1943-44.

(*b*) Resolved that Dr. Balfour should be approached and an attempt should be made to secure the aid of the Rockefeller Institute on the above subject.

Resolution IV, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that subject to the approval of the Government of India an order be placed with Horton Steel Works Limited of Toronto,

Canada, for a Guardite Vacuum Fumigation Unit complete with the accessories as early as possible.

Resolution II, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

(*b*) Resolved that the Rockefeller Institute should not be approached till the Imperial Record Department had got at least one microfilming camera.

Action taken.—Most of the recommendations were accepted by the Government of India. Arrangements have been completed for the installation of a Vacuum Fumigation Chamber, and an Analytical Ultra-Violet Lamp has been purchased. The microfilming unit has been working satisfactorily for the last two years and the Hydraulic Press for laminating documents has arrived at Bombay and is expected to be received shortly. Relative humidity and temperature of the muniment rooms is being regularly recorded.

Resolution V, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that the requisite authorities be moved for the supply of the chemicals to the Imperial Record Department.

(*a*) Resolved further that in view of the prevailing food scarcity in Bengal no further demand should be made for flour in that province and dextrine paste should be manufactured either in the Imperial Record Department or obtained from firms operating outside Bengal.

Action taken.—Chemicals and some important ingredients badly needed were received.

Resolution III, 3rd Session, November 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that the C.P.W.D. be asked for advice in the matter of air-conditioning of the Imperial Record Department building by parts.

Action taken.—Under consideration.

Resolution V, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that the Microphotographic Laboratory of the Imperial Record Department be provided with an air-conditioning plant of suitable capacity (5,000 cu. ft.) to enable it to proceed with the work.

Action taken.—The Government of India approved the proposal and necessary action will be taken in due course.

Resolution V, 6th Session, March 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that in case 5-ply wood boards are not available, the synthetic boards tested by the Imperial Record Department be used instead of Koil boards as a measure of economy during the pendency of war.

Action taken.—The Government of India approved it and necessary instructions have been issued to the various Departments of the Government of India.

Resolution II, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

(c) Resolved that an enquiry may in the first instance be made of the provincial Governments about the steps already taken for the safe custody and preservation of records belonging to the Central Government.

Action taken.—Some of the provincial Governments agreed to send the Crown records in their custody to the Imperial Record Department for repair, if and when necessary. The Keeper of the Records had obtained necessary information, during his inspection visits, from four provinces, *viz.*, Madras, Bengal, Assam and Orissa. As regards the remaining 7 provinces necessary information had been obtained through correspondence.

Resolution III, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the sealed covers of the treaties may be opened and steps may be taken for repairing the treaties, if necessary.

Action taken.—The treaties were repaired and are being kept in filing cabinets.

Resolution II, 8th Session, April 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Political Department be requested to institute an enquiry with regard to (*a*) the number of defunct residencies, (*b*) location of their records and (*c*) their state of preservation.

Resolution I, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that in view of the discrepancy pointed out in the agenda a further enquiry be made to clarify the doubtful points and a statement embodying the information about defunct agencies be placed before the next meeting of the Research and Publication Committee.

Action taken.—For details of action taken, *see* Part III, Appendix B, pp. 3-5 of the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings (1944).

Resolution III, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that in view of the prevailing war conditions no further action be taken for the present

Action taken.—This refers to protection of historical documents from the hazards of war. No action was taken.

Resolution IV, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that a technical Sub-Committee consisting of one member each from the Information and Broadcasting Department, Director of Public Relations, War Department (Historical Section) and Imperial Record Department be appointed to consider the

creation of a Central Agency for the storage, preservation, etc., of documentary motion picture films of the Government of India.

Action taken.—The Government of India held an Inter-Departmental Conference consisting of representatives from the Defence, Information and Broadcasting, Finance and Education Departments and the Director of Archives to consider the better preservation and safe custody of the motion picture films of the Government of India. It was agreed that the non-current documentary motion picture films and microfilms should be deposited in the National Archives of India in precisely the same manner as the Government of India's records. The details of the problem arising out of this centralisation of films, *e.g.*, procedure for requisitioning, storage equipments, preservations, staff, etc., are under scrutiny and a final decision will be taken by the Government of India in due course. Estimates of non-current films in the custody of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and other departments have been received but the estimates of the holdings of the Ministry of Defence are still awaited.

Resolution II, 4th Session, March 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the list (of Treaties) be printed and copies distributed to universities and learned institutions in India.

Action taken.—The "List of Treaties, Engagements and Sanads, etc.," was printed and distributed.

Resolution II, 5th Session, December 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the question (reduction in the price of the Calendar of Persian Correspondence) may be considered after the war.

Action taken.—The price has not yet been reduced.

Resolution I, 5th Session, December 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the scheme (A Five-year Publication Programme) be approved and placed before the Research and Publication Committee for detailed consideration.

Resolution II, 6th Session, March 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that steps be taken to implement the Five-year Publication Programme as recommended by this Committee in their meeting held on the 1st December 1941 and subsequently by the Research and Publication Committee and the Indian Historical Records Commission, during the 18th Session held in January 1942. The subject of actual printing will be taken up for further consideration six months hence.

Action taken.—The Government of India sanctioned the Five-year Publication Programme which is making satisfactory progress.

Resolution III, 11th Session, February 1945, New Delhi.

Resolved that the title "Indian Records Series" be used for all items of work under the Publication Programme excepting Scheme

III (*a*) for which the title "Records in Oriental Languages" be continued.

Resolved further that the implementing of Scheme III (*b*) be left entirely to private enterprise.

Action taken.—The Government of India accepted the recommendation.

Resolution II, 11th Session, February 1945, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee endorses the principle that the pre-Mutiny records of the Government of India should be published for the benefit of the students of history. The records selected for publication may, if they so desire, be scrutinised by the departments concerned before they are released. The Scheme may be placed before the next meeting of the Research and Publication Committee.

Action taken.—A Twenty-year Publication Programme was drawn up accordingly, and subsequently approved by the Indian Historical Records Commission The Government of India have accepted the proposal.

Resolution IV, 11th Session, February 1945, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Government of India be moved to authorise the Director of Archives to sign agreements on behalf of the Governor-General-in-Council with private parties who may undertake to edit and publish historical documents of the Government of India under Scheme III (*b*) of the Publication Programme. The agreement may be on the lines already adopted in the case of Scheme III (*a*).

Action taken.—A revised draft of the Memorandum of Agreement was drawn up which was subsequently approved by the Government of India.

Resolution II, 10th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

Resolved that as the paper position improves the Government of India be moved to allot as soon as possible such amount of paper as will enable the Department to implement the more important part of the publication programme.

Action taken.—Necessary paper for printing important items of the publication programme has been kept in reserve with the Deputy Controller of Printing and Stationery at Calcutta.

Resolution I, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that in view of the improved paper situation printing facilities should be granted in the following order of priority.

(1) (*a*) 150 extra copies of the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings should be printed in response to increased demand.

(*b*) " Comments on papers " should be printed in the proceedings as in 1942.

(*c*) The printing and binding as well as the quality of paper of the proceedings volumes should be improved.

(2) The printing and publication of " Annual Report of the Imperial Record Department " should be resumed.

(3) (*a*) " Summary of Papers " and (*b*) " Research Reports " should be printed as in pre-war days.

(4) " Manual on the Repair and Preservation of Records " should be revised and a new edition should be brought out.

(5) The pre-war size of Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings Volume should be restored.

(6) The " Manual of Rules Regulating Access to Archives in India and Europe " should be split into two parts and the Indian portion may be printed now and the European portion should be revised in the light of up-to-date information about continental archives as and when it is available. A chapter on the American Archives should be added to this part. Part II need not be printed immediately.

Action taken.—The ban on printing has been removed with certain restrictions. Only essential items can be printed now.

Classification, Listing, etc., of Records and Books

Resolution II, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that a consolidated list of the classified and separated pre-Mutiny records in the Imperial Record Department be printed.

Action taken.—Consolidated Manuscript lists of pre-Mutiny records of the Public, Revenue, Foreign and Political and Military Departments records have been prepared.

Resolution IV, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Persian records need not be classified and separated.

Action taken.—The arrangement of these records has not been disturbed.

Resolution IV, 6th Session, March 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the work in connection with the N.-W.F.P. records be continued in accordance with the proposed scheme.

Action taken.—The papers were sorted and arranged according to Departments. Nearly 20,000 papers were classified into A, B and C categories and the listing of the A and B papers was completed. The papers have now been handed over to the Government of the N.-W.F.P.

Resolution III, 8th Session, April 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that a list of the proscribed publications be prepared as some of them are likely to be of historical interest and the co-operation of the Departments of the Government of India be invited when necessary. Resolved further that the list be scrutinised from time to time with a view to weeding.

Action taken.—As the numbering and listing of the proscribed publications are likely to be of only limited use, the Government of India decided that the work might wait till after the war.

The National Archives of India staff are doing their best in the matter within their limited scope.

Indexing of Records

Resolution I, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Specimen Indexes submitted by the Keeper of Records be approved and the classified records of the late Foreign and Political Department be indexed on the lines approved.

Resolution I, 3rd Session, November 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved (i) that A and B class documents of the late Foreign and Political Department be kept in their original serial order and (ii) that one volume of cumulative index be compiled of all A and B class records of all the series up to the year 1789 and from 1790 for successive quinquennia.

Action taken.—The documents up to the year 1880 have been kept in their original serial order. A cumulative index of the A and B class documents of the late Foreign and Political Department up to 1780 is in Press.

Weeding of Records

Resolution III, 2nd Session, March 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that certain documents which are worm-eaten and mutilated beyond repair be destroyed.

Action taken.—The documents were destroyed.

Resolution IV, 10th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee suggests—

(*a*) that records marked for destruction after weeding by the Department of origin should be sent to the Imperial Record Department for final disposal. The Imperial Record Department should scrutinise such records with a view to ascertaining their present and future historical value and provide for the preservation of such records as are considered sufficiently important.

(*b*) As regards printed records twenty sample original manuscripts with the corresponding printed proceedings should be obtained from various Departments and compared to find out whether any essential matter is omitted in the course of printing.

Action taken.—The Government of India decided to consider the question in connection with the Post-war Re-organisation Scheme of the Department. The rules governing weeding of records have, however, been circulated to all the Departments of the Government of India.

Transcription of Documents

Resolution III, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that arrangement be made for the completion of the different series in the custody of the Imperial Record Department by securing transcripts of missing records either from the Provincial Record Rooms or from the India Office.

N.B.—The suggestion of meeting the typing expenses from such savings from the budget grant of the office as may be effected under the head "T.A." of the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission and under other heads was also approved.

Action taken.—The India Office was approached for furnishing this Department with copies of letters found missing in Volume 41 A of Foreign Miscellaneous Series (containing Major Browne's Correspondence, 1782-85). The Superintendent of Records agreed to forward the necessary transcripts which, however, are still awaited.

Resolution V, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that the programme of typing faded documents be approved.

Action taken.—Two typists were sanctioned by the Government of India. The work is in progress.

Resolution I, 2nd Session, March 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that in the opinion of the Sub-Committee it is desirable to have typed copies of all fading documents and the Keeper of Records of the Government of India should make a survey of the old documents with a view to forming a precise estimate of the amount of work likely to be involved.

Action taken.—A general survey was made and it was estimated that about 40,000 documents had become faded.

More and more documents will, come under this category with the passage of time.

Resolution III, 4th Session, March 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the transcription of faded documents be continued.

Action taken.—The transcription of faded documents is being continued.

Resolution III, 5th Session, December 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Keeper of Records of the Government of India be authorised to pay out of the funds placed at his disposal reasonable charges for transcribing documents in Oriental Languages.

Action taken.—The Government of India authorised the Keeper of Records to incur an expenditure not exceeding Rs. 150 from the sanctioned budget grant every year for this purpose. The remuneration to be paid to such persons should be calculated at the rate of -/6/- per foolscap page of transcript.

Resolution V, 8th Session, April 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Keeper of Records be authorised to select documents in future for transcription according to their importance and state of preservation and the transcription of the twenty-two volumes of the Proceedings of the Political Department (without Original Consultations) be taken up at an early date.

Action taken.—The Government of India authorised the Keeper of Records to do the needful.

Training in Archives-keeping

Resolution I, 6th Session, March 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the full training Scheme (of 2 years) be approved and that it be circulated to all the provincial Governments and Indian States, universities and learned institutions in India for information and such action as they may consider necessary. It will be open to candidates to go for one year's training in any two subjects. Special training course in preservation only will also be offered to members and students interested in that particular subject.

Action taken.—The Government of India approved the Scheme and circulated it to all Departments of the Government of India, provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and learned institutions in India. The Government of India have sanctioned two stipends of Rs. 100 each to be awarded to suitable candidates for receiving training in Archives-keeping in the National Archives of India. Candidates from various provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and learned institutions are coming for training every year in good numbers.

Resolution IV, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Diploma in the given form may be printed. As for the use of the Royal Coat of Arms permission of Private Secretary to H. E. the Governor-General should be obtained.

Action taken.—Diplomas in the given form were printed and awarded to successful candidates after completion of their training.

Resolution V, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the modification proposed may be accepted in the terms and conditions of the Training Scheme and circulated to all the

provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and learned institutions.

Action taken.—The modifications were accepted by the Government of India. Copies of amendments were circulated to all provincial Governments, Indian States, universities and learned institutions.

Library Organisation

Resolution IV, 4th Session, March 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that an enquiry be made whether the books on Indian history available in the Imperial Secretariat Library can be transferred to the Imperial Record Department on condition that Imperial Record Department will undertake to supply requisitions for them as is being done in respect of the publications already transferred there by the said Library from time to time.

Resolved further that the Government of India be approached for funds when the budget for 1942-43 is prepared.

Action taken.—75 volumes only which were in duplicate were transferred to this Department. The budget grant for the purchase of books was increased.

Resolution VI, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends to the Government of India that a non-recurring grant of Rs. 2,000 and a recurring grant of Rs. 700 should be made to the Imperial Record Department for the purchase of the necessary scientific and historical books of reference.

Action taken.—The Government of India were unable to accept the recommendation in view of financial stringency.

Resolution I, 10th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Government of India be requested to reconsider their decision as the technical literature needed by the Imperial Record Department is not available elsewhere.

Action taken.—On the suggestion of the Government of India, a provision for Rs. 2,000 was made in the budget proposal of the Imperial Record Department for 1945-46. In 1947 a lump sum of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned for purchase of essential books.

Resolution III, 10th Session, March 1944, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that the post of a clerk may be converted into that of a Library Assistant in the Imperial Record Department in the scale of Rs. 75—5—200 and that the question of the creation of a post of a Librarian be considered on a more suitable occasion.

Action taken.—The Government of India sanctioned a permanent post of a Library Assistant on the scale of Rs. 75—5—125 (now 100—250) and a temporary post of Librarian was created in connection with the development scheme of the Department.

Miscellaneous

Resolution IV, 2nd Session, March 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that the change of the designation to Senior and Junior Menders from Sorters and Daftries (engaged in repairing documents) be approved.

Action taken.—The designations Senior and Junior Menders were adopted.

Resolution V, 3rd Session, November 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that furniture worth Rs. 750 be purchased for the Research Room provided the money could be found from the Imperial Record Department budget.

Action taken.—The furniture for the Research Room was purchased.

Resolution IV, 5th Session, December 1941, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Keeper of Records to the Government of India be authorised to engage temporarily dusting bearers for 3 months at one time.

Action taken.—The Governor-General in Council authorised the Keeper of Records to appoint 2 temporary dusting bearers for a period of not more than 3 months at a time.

Resolution IV, 8th Session, April 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that in view of the high prices now current the Proof Reader should be given a scale of pay similar to that of the Junior Technical Assistant in the Imperial Record Department and the Government of India should be moved on the subject.

Action taken.—The Government of India granted the scale of Rs. 75—5—150 per mensem to the Proof Reader

employed in connection with the 5-year Publication Programme of the Department.

Resolution III, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that the Director of Archives be authorised to address direct the Departments of the Government of India, provincial Governments, etc., to collect necessary information and to collect relevant data for his own office so that the Department may be in a position to start work under the post-war reorganisation scheme as soon as it is called upon to do so.

Action taken.—The Government of India have no objection to Director of Archives directly addressing the departments of the Government of India, provincial Governments, Indian States, etc., for obtaining information on items directly bearing on the post-war reorganisation of the Imperial Record Department provided a copy thereof is forwarded to the Education and Political Department.

Resolution VI, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that the questionnaire mentioned in the agenda be circulated to elicit the information asked for as soon as possible.

Action taken.—This refers to the responsibility of the Imperial Record Department in respect of the records of such Government agencies as have not transferred their archives to its custody.

Reply of the Government of India is awaited.

Resolution IV, 3rd Session, November 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that arrangements be made for the transfer of the old Military records of the Government of Bombay to the Imperial Record Department provided the extra cost could be met from the savings in the Imperial Record Department budget.

Action taken.—The records consisting of about 9,000 volumes have since been transferred to this Department and are being listed and labelled.

Resolution I, 11th Session, February 1945, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee is of opinion that it is desirable that the Director of Archives should visit each province once in three years and submit a report to the Government of India on the state of preservation in which the old historical records may be found with such suggestions as may lead to the improvement of the existing state of things.

Action taken.—*See* under "Inspection of Records" (Indian Historical Records Commission Resolution III, 22nd Session, 1945).

Resolution VI, 1st Session, November 1939, New Delhi.

Resolved that a Literary Sub-Committee with Dr. Spear and the Secretary as members be constituted for scrutinising and editing papers submitted for reading at the opening session of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Action taken.—A Literary Sub-Committee was formed with Dr. Spear and the Secretary. The Literary Sub-Committee with the Secretary as Chairman has been functioning since then. The papers are scrutinised by this committee before they are published in the Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings every year.

Resolution II, 2nd Session, March 1940, New Delhi.

Resolved that the Rules as revised by the Keeper of Records of the Government of India regulating inspection of historical records in the custody of the Imperial Record Department be approved with necessary modification suggested by the Sub-Committee.

Action taken.—The rules were approved by the Government of India and are now being followed.

Resolution II, 12th Session, February 1946, New Delhi.

The Sub-Committee recommends that paras 3 (*a*), 3 (*b*) and 3 (*c*) should stand as they are. The Political Department may consider whether it is possible to expedite (*a*) the release of excerpts submitted by subjects of Indian States and (*b*) whether any change in the method of scrutiny may conveniently be made.

Action taken.—While every effort would be made for early release of excerpts of historical records required by subjects of Indian States, the Government of India did not consider that any change in the method of scrutiny of excerpts submitted to them was necessary.

Resolution III, 6th Session, March 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the suggested procedure (of requisition of papers in the custody of the Imperial Record Department) may be approved by the Government of India and the Political Department. Requisition for the Crown records and Confidential records of other departments should always be made through the Department to which the records in question belong.

Action taken.—The procedure was adopted by the Government of India with the concurrence of all Departments.

Resolution VI, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the procedure laid down for requisition of papers should be observed.

Action taken.—A memorandum setting out the procedure for requisition of records was circulated among the Departments and offices of the Government of India and is now being followed.

Resolution I, 4th Session, March 1941, New Delhi.

Action taken on the resolutions of the First, Second and Third Meetings of the Local Records Sub-Committee was approved.

Resolution I, 7th Session, November 1942, New Delhi.

Resolved that the action taken on the resolutions be approved.

Resolution II, 9th Session, November 1943, New Delhi.

Resolved that the action so far taken be approved.

MGIPC—L—XVI-2-20—31.5.49—1,500.